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Saturday Review:
The first
detective novel, page 7

Pay curbs start of long-term strategy

The Government measures to combat inflation published yesterday fixed an upper limit of £6 a week for pay increases during the next year's pay round, with a cut-off point on salaries of £8,500. They are

to take effect from August 1 for a full 12 months but the Chancellor of the Exchequer made clear that they would be only the first phase in a policy of pay curbs that will last for several years. The TUC and

moderate union leaders joined in approving the measures but left-wing trade unions predicted that the package would not work. While the Shadow Cabinet is expected to support the Government, it is likely

that Tory reservations will be expressed in a reasoned amendment. Shadow ministers expressed serious misgivings on whether the Government's measures were equal to the task of conquering inflation.

The main points of the new policy

- A limit of £6 a week on pay rises in the next negotiating round
- No rises for those earning more than £8,500 a year
- The scheme to operate for 12 months from August 1
- Legal discrimination against employers who seek to pay more than £6 a week
- Statutory power to prevent excessive rises being passed on under the Prices Code
- No help for nationalized industries that make excessive pay deals
- Restricted trade support grants for local authorities doing the same
- 70m more for food subsidies next financial year and £80m more to keep council rent rises down

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Restrictions will last for several years, Chancellor says

By David Wood
Political Editor

Although the Government's "compulsory voluntary pay policy" (as Labour would describe it) has been introduced to run from August 1 for a full 12 months, the Chancellor made clear yesterday that it is to be the first phase in a statutory pay policy that will run for several years.



Mr Healey and Mr Wilson explaining the anti-inflation policy at a press conference yesterday.

The policy, as announced by the Prime Minister in the Commons yesterday and expounded by him and the Chancellor at a subsequent news conference, fixes an upper limit of £6 a week for wage increases during the next year's pay round, with a cut-off point on salaries of £8,500.

Not everyone will suffer a fall in living standards. Mr Healey said that a married couple on two thirds of average earnings would receive a slight increase over the next year of 2 per cent, but at £7,000 there would be a fall of 6 per cent on real net income, after allowing for tax and contributions.

But Mr Healey had tough words for anybody who thinks that belts must be tightened only for one year. It was not a once-for-all policy. It was part of a programme to bring inflation under control.

Whatever reservations the Opposition may have about the effectiveness of the Government's package, the possibility has to be reckoned with that any likely government would exploit the Labour Government's understanding with the TUC and CBI by perpetuating some form of incomes policy. That means Parliament is now dealing with what promises to be a permanent move away from market forces and towards the corporate state.

The Government's devices for enforcing a £6 a week upper limit on pay rises during the next year include use of existing statutory powers and new legislation. As Mr Wilson and other ministers put it, the Government is merely introducing a statutory element to reinforce a policy that has been voluntarily accepted by both the TUC and the CBI.

There will be a Bill published next week for passage to Royal Assent before Parliament rises for the long summer recess. It will remove from employers, public and private, any contractual obligation that might otherwise compel them to pay beyond the set limit, prevent payment of staged increases above the limit; permit the Government to impose selective sanctions on individual local authorities who defy the

CBI have approved the essentials of the package, and that therefore it is the Government's duty to ensure that everybody keeps it. In that sense, it is not to be regarded as an enforced policy.

As Mr Wilson said in the Commons: "We intend to ensure observance of the new pay policy by employing the full battery of weapons available... As employer the Government will ensure that all settlements in respect of its employees... comply with the pay limit. It will call on all other public sector employers to do the same."

"That meant that for the nationalized industries and services no money would be made available for excess settlements," he said. Those seeking to negotiate settlements above the agreed limits must face the certain consequence that there would be an inescapable cut-back in the present expenditure of the board or corporation concerned, directly affecting employment in that industry.

Mr Healey and Mr Wilson made clear that unless local authorities kept a tight grip on pay and reduced staff the Government would hit back by cutting the rate support grant and reducing grants for capital spending programmes.

In the private sector, the Government will punish firms who pay over the limit by denying them the benefits of the Industry Act and government orders. Legislation will ensure that no excess pay award can be passed on in prices.

Shadow Cabinet's misgivings on adequacy of new measures

Michael Ratfield
Political Staff

The Conservative Shadow Cabinet met for one hour yesterday to consider the Prime Minister's statement and while the party line is expected to be one of support, the Government here is a strong likelihood that reasoned amendment to the proposals will be tabled.

One example quoted was the food industry, where they said that a £5 flat rate increase represented a 20 per cent increase in incomes.

There was also strong criticism that the sanctions against proposed increases above the £6 ceiling were one-sided. The Government had not made clear if it would assist employers who stood up against strikers seen to be demanding higher increases.

The parliamentary Liberal Party is to meet on Monday to discuss its strategy, but it seems to share some Conservative views that the proposed measures do not go far enough.

Mr Thorpe, party leader, said last night: "Our relief that at last action is now contemplated is tempered by the one-sided nature of the measures proposed. Anyone would think we were trying to correct a temporary relapse instead of a full-scale economic recession."

He accused the Government of abdicating to others its responsibility for attacking inflation. For the past 18 months the TUC had been given responsibility for enforcing the

Mr Wilson's feat of reconciliation

By Hugh Noyes
Parliamentary Correspondent

Mr Wilson yesterday seemed to have pulled off a feat of reconciliation that will go down in the annals of political wizardry as one of his greatest achievements. Out of the Babel that preceded the publication of yesterday's White Paper from the political right, left and centre, he emerged with a Commons statement that produced not a single threat of resignation or instant revolution.

On the benches behind Mr Wilson were Mr Heffer, Mr Skinner and many others of the far left, at least some of whom it was felt might erupt like Vesuvius at what was about to be said. Ministers and shadow ministers were squeezed shoulder to shoulder on their respective front benches.

Financial Times' plans change to computer production to cut losses

David Leigh

The Financial Times, widely regarded as one of the most financially secure national newspapers, yesterday announced that it was to computerize production, shedding a third of its 1,400 staff, as the way to cut costs. Otherwise the paper would be losing £m a year by 1978, its chief executive announced.

Mr Alan Hare, the managing director and chief executive, said that union representatives had been told of the plan yesterday morning. Full consultation would take place and better terms would be offered in an statutory redundancy payments.

Dr Soares says Socialist Party will not accept subservience to armed forces

Lisbon, July 11.—Dr Mario Soares, who led his Socialist Party out of the Government early today, accused the ruling Armed Forces Movement of threatening Portugal with a communist-style police state.

He reminded a press conference that the Socialists were Portugal's biggest party, having won 37.8 per cent of the votes in the April elections. "We do not accept subservience to the armed forces," he declared.

Dr Soares was speaking for his party alone. But a senior member of the left-of-centre Popular Democratic Party (PPD) said his words reflected PPD views. The PPD which took 26.3 per cent of the votes in April, would also walk out of the Government, he said, unless the Armed Forces Movement (AFM) created a Western-style democracy.

US safety board orders jumbo jet design changes

From Our Correspondent
New York, July 11

The Federal Aviation Administration today issued an airworthiness directive ordering substantial design changes in all new Boeing 747s.

There would also be retraining schemes both for workers to stay and to enable those who left to get other work. The technology which is used to introduce is based on American newspaper experience; it has been recognised several years that various forms of computer-processing suitable for modernizing Fleet exist.

Mr Hare said the paper's long-term difficulties were in some ways as critical as those of other newspapers, and not purely attributable to the present recession. "To continue as

Luanda, July 11.—Mortar fire and the chatter of automatic weapons shook Luanda today, breaking a three-party Angolan truce signed in Kenya last month and killing an estimated 200 persons in two days.

Mrs Castle plans cuts in NHS running costs

Mrs Castle, Secretary of State for Social Services, yesterday announced measures aimed at helping the National Health Service to withstand a probable shortfall in its resources over the next few years while making it better equipped to win a bigger share in future. She proposes cuts in administrative costs, joint health and local authority planning and financing of some services and more

participation by health service workers and local councillors in the running of the service. Mrs Castle told the National Association of Health Authorities that it was planned that one third of the membership of each regional and area health authority should be drawn from local authorities. Authorities would be asked to seek ways of cutting administrative costs.

Dr Kissinger and Mr Gromyko make progress on Salt

Dr Kissinger, the American Secretary of State, and Mr Gromyko, the Soviet Foreign Minister, met for 12 hours in Geneva yesterday, making progress towards agreement on the strategic arms limitation talks.

(Salt) but afterwards being reluctant about Middle East developments. Dr Kissinger flew on to Bonn last night to see the visiting Israeli Prime Minister, Mr Rabin.

Prentice affair a 'national scandal' Hint in India of one-party rule

Mr Bryan Magee, MP, has told the constituency Labour party at Newham North-East that it would be a national scandal and do the party irreparable harm if they ousted their MP, Mr Prentice. Last night Mr Prentice said his stand on the need to reaffirm belief in free speech and tolerance.

A suggestion that India should look towards the one-party systems of government which exist in black Africa was made yesterday by the Congress Party newspaper *The National Herald*. The paper, which acts as a mirror of Mrs Gandhi's government's thinking, said that Westminster-style democracy was unsuitable for some nations.

Peron defeat £40m VAT loss

Señora Perón, President of Argentina, yesterday accepted the resignation of Señor Lopez Rega, her closest political adviser. The President has been forced to give way to the trade unions and reshuffle her Cabinet to retain the support of organized labour.

Lack of adequate staff has been a major influence on the loss of an estimated £40m in value-added tax revenue to the Government. This was among disclosures made yesterday in the report of the Public Accounts Committee.

Output slides England collapse

England lost seven wickets for 83 runs in the first Test match against Australia at Edgbaston yesterday when Walker took four wickets and Lillee three. England need 77 runs to avoid the follow-on.

Silkin call: Local authorities must "sink their rivalries and work together", Mr John Silkin, Minister for Planning and Local Government, said yesterday.

Strasbourg: British Labour MP calls for European Parliament to be given direct control over EEC spending

Diplomacy: Mr Callaghan's patient efforts have saved Mr Hills but what if General Amin stages a similar incident?

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John Blunden captures the world motor racing championship; Philip Howard on the Arts Council's exclusion of art for the country's sake; Robin Mead remembers the days when a package tour to France cost £5; Peter Hennessy on the men from the ministry who throw away unwanted secrets	Business News, pages 15-16
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HOME NEWS

Cuts in health service aimed at helping it survive the crisis

By Neville Hodgkinson

Measures aimed at helping the National Health Service to withstand a probable standstill in its resources over the next few years, while making it better equipped to win a bigger share in future, were announced yesterday by Mrs Castle, Secretary of State for Social Services.

The proposals include cuts in administrative costs, joint health and local authority planning and financing of some services, and more participation by both health service workers and local authority councillors in the running of the service.

Mrs Castle, who was addressing the first annual meeting of the National Association of Health Authorities, said that a heavy price had been paid in the past for the reorganization of the health service. "I cannot say I can see very much efficiency in the structure of the reorganized health service," she said.

She would be inviting authorities to seek ways of reducing their administrative costs, as a proportion of their overall allocations, to what they were before reorganization. She would also be seeking their help in ending duplication of functions between area, region and her department.

Mrs Castle announced that she had decided to implement a proposal to reduce the number of health authorities from 15 to 10. This would be done by merging each regional and area health authority should be drawn from local authorities. The necessary statutory instruments were laid before Parliament yesterday.

Consultations were not yet complete, she said, on a proposal that the health authorities should also have two representatives of health service workers besides doctors and nurses. She said: "This will be a long overdue

reform which reflects the fact that the delivery of health care is a team business and that the team comprises everyone from the humblest to the highest. A hospital cannot function without consultants but it cannot function without laundry workers either.

She had decided not to implement a proposal that community health councils should nominate two of their members to serve on area health authorities. Instead they would be entitled to send one member to area health authorities with the right to speak but not to vote.

Mrs Castle said the prospects for financing the service over the next few years were bleak. "We shall be very lucky if in the next three to four years, when this country is struggling to bring inflation under control, we see any real growth whatever in the service." But in the long run, how much money was available depended critically on the means available for expressing the priority that the public attached.

Mrs Castle said that she had been asked why expenditure on education had risen in real terms at an annual average rate of 61 per cent since 1950 while that on the health service had increased by only 31 per cent in the same period. She added:

"I am convinced that behind this higher rate of growth lies the power and influence of the strong national educational groups, compared with the kind of effective pressure groups that education had. She believed that the new reorganized system, left as it was, would similarly fail. That was why she thought the addition of extra local authority people, democratically elected, would strengthen "the arm of you all in the service".

Councils are urged to 'sink their rivalries'

From Christopher Warman
Local Government Correspondent
Eastbourne

It is vital that the two tiers of local government work together effectively and efficiently at this time of severe restraint on public expenditure. Mr John Silkin, Minister for Planning and Local Government, said yesterday.

He told delegates to the annual conference of the Society of Local Authority Chief Executives that he had strongly opposed the county and district tiers proposed in reorganization, but the new system was in being, and it was part of the chief executives' job to make it work.

The two-tier system had created difficulties, particularly in the planning field, and had caused a shortage of planners. Local authorities must "sink their rivalries and work together" if those difficulties were to be surmounted, he said.

Referring to the Community Land Bill, Mr Silkin said the proposals on land acquisition management schemes allowed the counties and districts to coordinate policies in the light of local circumstances.

He added that he had hardly seen any comments on the community land scheme which did not exaggerate its cost and diminish its benefits. The period ahead for local authorities is going to be a very tough one indeed, and I do not wish to underplay that. But we must not lose sight of our goal, we must not lose sight of the fact that this scheme will be profitable.

A plea for stability in local government was made by Sir Stanley Holmes, chief executive of Merseyside metropolitan council. The more clearly responsible ministers for the system is here to stay, the more you will get cooperation between districts and counties."



Scott, a baby giraffe born on June 27, accepting a feed, watched by his mother (right) at Whipsnade Zoo.

Captain criticized for flying damaged plane

By Arthur Reed

British Airways yesterday accepted the findings of a report by government aviation accident investigators which said that a flight between Heraklion, Greece, and Gatwick, London, with 156 passengers had been made in a Boeing 707 aircraft the structural strength of which had been impaired.

Action has been taken to ensure that there can be no repetition, the airline said.

The damage occurred after the aircraft's commander had made a hard landing at Heraklion on the outward journey for British Airways on June 6, 1974. The accident report said

that damage substantially reduced structural strength in the area of number two engine pylon.

But in spite of advice the commander did not initially accept that a hard landing had been made, and he was told the aircraft was damaged as a result of his landing.

Boeing 707s are no longer in service with British Airways.

Jail for £22,000 bomb hoax

A man was sentenced to 15 months imprisonment at the County Court in Exeter yesterday for trying to obtain £22,000 from Bourne and Hollingsworth, the department store in Oxford Street, London, by pretending he had planted a bomb.

Richard Alastair McColl, 34, employed of Spring Hill, Harlow, Essex, admitted making an

unwarranted demand for money with menaces.

Mr Stewart Patterson, for the prosecution, said that Mr McColl telephoned the store on June 11 and ordered Mr Philip Orend, the firm's financial director to take all the money from the safe, put it in a suitcase, and walk along Wardour Street.

European health aid pact proposed

From Pat Healy
Social Services Correspondent
Dublin

The Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe will be asked this autumn to approve negotiations for an international agreement on medical help between western and eastern European countries. The agreement would ensure that tourists, students and others falling ill or suffering accidents when abroad would get full medical treatment.

The more comes after a conference of social security experts from 15 member countries of the Council of Europe, which ended in Dublin yesterday. The experts agreed that an agreement was both technically possible and desirable. But the political decision to go ahead with negotiations must be made by the Committee of Ministers.

M. Otto Messer, deputy director of the council's Directorate of Economic and Social Affairs, said yesterday that there was a real difficulty for tourists who fall ill and did not have the necessary social security cover to get treatment. The recommendation from the conference aimed at ensuring they would get necessary help, including being brought home if necessary.

Five eastern European countries have expressed interest in such an agreement: Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Romania, Hungary and Yugoslavia. The Committee of Ministers approves the idea, details of an agreement will be worked out in cooperation with the International Labour Organization, which prepared a preliminary study. It is hoped that an international treaty will be signed in 1977.

At a press conference in Dublin yesterday the experts also disclosed that the council's Convention on Social Security, drawn up in 1973, is likely to take effect by the end of this year. The convention, which is the widest proposed anywhere in the world and would ensure social security coverage for the self-employed and migrant workers, has been ratified by Austria.

Luxembourg is expected to sign shortly and the Irish Government by the end of the year.

Kitten smuggler fined £200 and warned on rabies

Imposing a fine of £200 on a French student who smuggled a kitten into Britain, a magistrate at Sandwich, Kent, said yesterday that if rabies spread across the Channel it could change the whole ecology of this country.

Francis Lafarge, aged 18, of Savres, admitted smuggling the animal through Dover without a licence.

Chief Inspector Robert Sanders said that M. Lafarge crossed from Calais last Friday night with the kitten hidden in a bag.

Mr Charles Lock, chairman of the bench, said magistrates would take strong steps to back up police and port officials to check the threat of rabies.

The kitten is now at a Ministry of Agriculture laboratory at Wye, Kent, where tests are being carried out.

Home Office told to admit patrilial wives

By a Staff Reporter

The Court of Appeal yesterday ordered the Home Office to reconsider the cases of two immigrant wives who were refused permission to join their husbands who are United Kingdom citizens in Britain.

Overturning a High Court judgment in April which upheld the Home Office's refusal, the court decided that the wives, from Pakistan and Bangladesh, were justified in flying to London without first obtaining certificates of patrilial in their countries of origin.

Until yesterday the Home Office's policy was to accept applications for certificates of patrilial only in the country of origin. Any wife who arrived without a certificate was refused permission to enter the United Kingdom.

The court held that there was no good reason why applications by patrilial should not be dealt with here. The two wives involved were Mrs Mahmood Phansopkar, who came to live with her husband, Ali-mi, in Peterborough, and Mrs Lalun Rout, whose husband, Abdul, lives in London.

Mr David Stephen, director of the Rannymede Trust, welcomed the decision as "a profound development for the humane administration of the immigration laws".

He explained that dependants of United Kingdom citizens by birth, registration, or naturalization had a legal right of entry and the required documentation was only a test of their eligibility. "We have felt for some time that the documentation was interfering

with the exercise of those legal rights", he added.

The decision is likely to have the greatest effect for potential immigrants from Pakistan. When Pakistan left the Commonwealth, immigrants holding Pakistani passports risked losing their status as Commonwealth citizens.

To avoid becoming aliens, many took out United Kingdom citizenship under the Pakistan Act, passed two years ago. Thus many wives and dependants who have acquired an absolute right of entry to Britain are likely to be left in Pakistan.

Mr Larry Grant, who handles some legal work for the National Council for Civil Liberties, said the decision restored the position to what many lawyers believed the law to be.

He did not believe many people would be affected. The Home Office would be able to cope with an extra burden. Administrative delays had been caused as much by Home Office policy as staff shortage, he said.

Giving judgment, Lord Justice Scarman gave the opinion that the present Home Office practice was an infringement of Magna Carta and of the European Convention on Human Rights.

He also commented the Home Office would make yesterday was: "We will consider the judgment when we receive a transcript of the hearing. Leave to appeal to the House of Lords was granted on condition that the Home Office pays the costs of both parties."

Law Report, page 3

Labour MP says ousting of Mr Prentice would harm party and be national scandal

By Penny Symon
Political Staff

In a strongly worded letter to the constituents of North-East, Mr Bryan Magee, a Labour MP, has declared that the ousting of Mr Prentice, Minister for Overseas Development, from his constituency would be a national scandal and do the party irreparable harm.

Mr Prentice, who has displeased the left wing of the party in his constituency, will face a general management committee decision whether to ask him to stand down at the next election.

Mr Magee, who represents Waltham Forest, Leyton, near London, said in his letter that the ousting of Mr Prentice, Minister for Overseas Development, from his constituency would be a national scandal and do the party irreparable harm.

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Prentice was kept secret, but that was an impossible position to sustain, since the matter had profound significance for the entire Labour movement.

Mr Magee said that the Labour Party could not afford to have a minister who was not trusted by its members with differing views. Argument was fine, but if any section of the party started to try to throw out groups or individuals who disagreed with it, it would soon come to represent a very much narrower section of the community. It would get fewer votes, cease to win general election, and lose all its political influence.

Mr Magee's appeal to Mr Calcutt comes at the same time as one from the Manifesto Group of Labour MPs.

Mr Prentice, speaking in Avebury, Wiltshire, last night, said he was not intending to approach the constituency meeting in a mood to make a personal speech from the scaffold.

My local difficulties are a small example of a wider problem, the need for a wider tolerance. Heresy-hunting is not compatible with democracy. Many times in the past few months people have said to me, "We agree with what you say, but you would be wiser not to say it." That frame of mind is fundamentally antidemocratic.

Party workers, he continued, should remember that the MP is not their delegate but the representative of the whole constituency and his responsibility is to all his constituents, not just to a select group who run the party machine.

Stand up for this principle. There are too many MPs on both sides of the House of Commons who have opted for a quiet life by keeping their heads below the parapet. They have only themselves to blame if they find themselves treated as ambassadors by their local parties or by other powerful pressure groups.

100 'sightings' in hunt for two terrorists

By Stewart Tendler

Detectives hunting Carlos Martinez and Antonio Bouvier, the two terrorists, yesterday began sifting reports of sightings after a public appeal by the Bomb Squad for "sightings".

At least 100 "sightings" were passed to the squad. Most of them came from the London area. All will be examined.

The name Bouvier could be an alias used during trips to Britain. In releasing the name, Scotland Yard said the man was born in Ecuador in 1930.

Yesterday, Senior Detective Ycaza, the Ecuadorian ambassador, said police officers had shown the embassy an Ecuadorian passport and other papers in the name of Bouvier.

He said the passport was a torn fabric and a check, is being made in Quito, but Ycaza did not think Bouvier was Ecuadorian. The embassy keeps no records of citizens in London.

The picture of Bouvier issued by Scotland Yard bore a consular stamp.

A few days before Scotland Yard issued its description of Bouvier, the French police tried to find an arts dealer called Philippe Pereira, who has a gallery in Paris.

The French police are believed to suspect that Pereira, supposedly Brazilian, supplied explosives for the attack on the Cuban embassy in The Hague last September. They are investigating whether he is in fact Garcia Gonzalez, the man believed to have plotted the attack. The French are said to believe Gonzalez used his headquarters in Britain.

The French authorities on Thursday claimed that Britain had expelled a member of the Cuban embassy as a result of the investigations into the terrorists, but yesterday the Foreign Office denied that.

BMA urged to take an initiative on the regulation of doctors

From John Roper
Medical Reporter
Leeds

The Government had made no absolute plans for the implementation of the Morrison report on the regulation of the medical profession, and the British Medical Association should now take the initiative, Mr Walpole Lewin, chairman of the council, said at a special representative meeting to consider the report in Leeds yesterday.

The meeting gave general acceptance to the report, which suggests far-reaching changes affecting the education, training and discipline of doctors. Mr Lewin's meeting said that it was necessary to give effect to the report's recommendations. Some could be introduced without legislation, others would require amendments to the Medical Act.

The profession should press for legislation to get a constitution going so that the new General Medical Council proper could tackle the more difficult matters of regulating many of the educational aspects to which would take time and would need further legislation.

The BMA, the royal colleges, the universities and the GMC must come together, consult about what they wanted and get on and do it, he said.

Part of the debate concerned overseas doctors. The meeting made it plain that there was no question of racial discrimination. It was a matter of "putting our house in order" as far as some doctors and some qualifications were concerned.

The meeting referred to the council a motion that facilities should be available for overseas graduates to sit the GMC examination before coming to Britain.

Dr R. A. A. Lawrence (Derby), a member of the council, said that the position of overseas doctors had changed since he had come to Britain 27 years ago. Many overseas doctors now felt that they had not had a fair deal. Many could get jobs in unpopular specialties only, in second-rate hospitals, and they received little or no postgraduate training.

The meeting agreed that if a GMC health committee decided to practise because of ill health, he should be paid adequate financial compensation.

Pay protest, page 4

No vacancies for 10,000 school leavers in Wales

From Trevor Fishlock
Cardiff

Job prospects for people leaving school in Wales this month are the worst for 30 years and ten thousand will probably be out of work, the Wales TUC said yesterday.

The social consequences, an increase in vandalism, other crime, frustration and migration, will be appalling, Mr George Wright, its secretary, said.

In a grim report on unemployment, the Wales TUC research unit said more than 70,000 people (7 per cent) would be unemployed in Wales by Christmas. It suggested that emergency job creation programmes involving conservation work such as clearing rivers and canals, should be considered.

It also suggested that school leavers unable to find work should be sent on three-month working visits to Europe, financed by the EEC, to widen their experience and restore their confidence.

"It is an indication of our desperation," Mr Wright said. "We have poor training facilities in Wales and unemployment is accelerating. One of the most important times in your working life is when you are starting, when you become accustomed to the disciplines of work, and we all know that kids in work cause less trouble than kids out of work."

He said cuts in public spending would increase unemployment in Wales and would be severe.

The report said that when an upswing in the economy comes Wales, with its lack of training opportunities, would take much longer to revive than other parts of Britain.

Man who killed baby 'trusted' by social worker

From Our Correspondent
Sheffield

Only weeks before John Auckland killed his daughter Susan, aged 15 months, a social worker considered he was more capable of looking after his children than his wife, an inquiry in Sheffield was told yesterday.

The inquiry had heard how Mr Auckland killed the girl in July last year after serving a prison sentence in 1968 for the manslaughter of his daughter Marianne. Mr Douglas Drain, a social worker for the London Borough of Hounslow, told the inquiry in a statement that Mrs Barbara Auckland asked him for accommodation for herself and her children.

She told him she had left home three months earlier because her husband was beating her and the children. Later Mr Drain telephoned Mr Timothy Jones, a social worker at Barnsley, and told him of the visit of the manslaughter conviction and the childbearing.

Mr Drain said: "He knew about the conviction and I think he was aware of the childbearing. He told me Auckland was the better able of the two parents to look after the children."

The inquiry was adjourned.

Crime of century

The Crime of the Century is the title of a classic thriller which has been specially written for The Sunday Times by Kingsley Amis.

But it is a thriller with a difference. For readers are invited to write their own 3,000-word final chapter in a competition with a £500 recorder as first prize. Full details and the first instalment appear in tomorrow's issue of The Sunday Times.

Computer aid for paper

Continued from page 1

We are for much longer could mean running out of both time and resources", he added.

Revenue increases from advertising or price rises were becoming harder to achieve. Newspaper costs were rising, especially with falling exchange rates, overheads were increasing sharply and "understandable requirements" for wages and pensions were now impossible to satisfy.

The 1974 pre-tax profit of the paper which is part of the Pearson Longman group, fell by half to just over £1m.

The entire content of the Financial Times is to be photographed by computer. That will eventually include pictures, drawings, and the layout of complete pages.

Advertising will be fed into the computer at credit control and invoicing will be dealt with by it. The computers will also control circulation and distribution, including operations such as label printing and the stacking of bundles.

Overseas stock exchanges, news agencies and journalists in the field will be able to feed material straight into the computer, which will be able to use "Optical character recognition" of written material. Material will be typed on small display screens—video terminals.

The system, which is exceptional far-reaching in the linking of typesetting and

many other commercial and administrative paper functions, begins with conventional typewriter keyboards, and ends with full-page photographic plates, which are converted for use on the traditional rotary presses.

As was also decided by the Daily Mirror, the Financial Times will not try to modernize those presses, which are extremely expensive pieces of capital equipment.

The difficulties the company now faces in gradually reducing the system are considerable. It will not only cut staff, but destroy existing jobs. The company recognized that that would cause special hardships to certain groups.

The wages structure for workers would also have to be changed to take account of the technology.

Mr Joe Wade, assistant general secretary of the National Graphical Association, said last night that there was no reason why the introduction of far-reaching new technologies should not succeed and enable national newspapers to survive. But it was essential that there should be no compulsory redundancies.

Staff cuts had to take place over a period of years and Fleet Street newspapers had to be prepared to carry more staff than they strictly needed while voluntary redundancies took place.

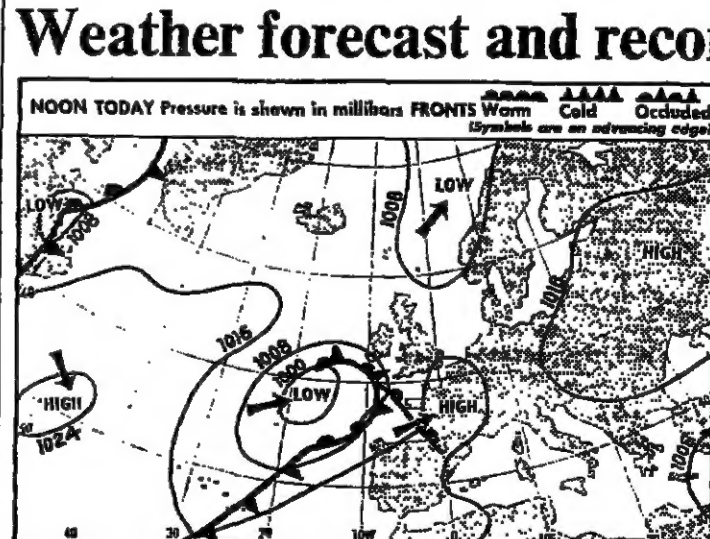
Mr Drain said: "He knew about the conviction and I think he was aware of the childbearing. He told me Auckland was the better able of the two parents to look after the children."

The inquiry was adjourned.

Pop singer on road death charge

Les McKeown, aged 19, lead singer of the Bay City Rollers pop group, who is accused of causing death by dangerous driving, was granted £100 bail when he appeared in court in Edinburgh yesterday.

Mr McKeown, of Broomhouse, Edinburgh, appeared in private before Sheriff James Aikman Smith. The charge concerns an accident in Corstorphine Road, Edinburgh, on May 29, in which an elderly woman pedestrian died.



Today

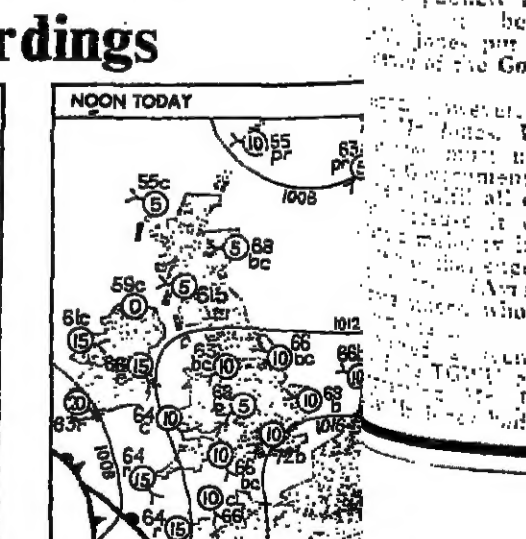
Sun rises: 6.57 am	Sun sets: 9.15 pm
Moon rises: 9.26 am	Moon sets: 10.35 pm

First sighting: July 15
Lighting up: 9.45 am to 4.28 am
High water: London Bridge, 4.45 am, 7.6m (24.8ft); 5.1 pm, 7.4m (24.3ft). Avonmouth, 10.34 am, 12.5m (44.4ft); 10.51 pm, 13.7m (44.8ft). Dover, 1.48 am, 6.6m (21.7ft); 2.13 pm, 6.8m (22.3ft). Hull, 9.3 am, 7.6m (24.8ft); 9.41 am, 9.3m (30.5ft). Liverpool, 2.0 am, 9.7m (31.7ft); 2.30 pm, 9.4m (30.7ft).

Tomorrow

Sun rises: 6.58 am	Sun sets: 9.14 pm
Moon rises: 10.47 am	Moon sets: 10.39 pm

Lighting up: 9.44 pm to 4.29 am
High water: London Bridge, 5.29 am, 7.5m (24.7ft); 5.44 pm, 7.3m (24.1ft). Avonmouth, 11.20 am, 13.3m (43.8ft); 11.35 pm, 13.6m (44.8ft). Dover, 2.37 am, 6.6m (21.7ft); 3.0 pm, 6.8m (22.3ft). Hull, 9.3 am, 7.6m (24.8ft); 9.41 am, 9.3m (30.5ft). Liverpool, 2.0 am, 9.7m (31.7ft); 2.30 pm, 9.4m (30.7ft).



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Weather forecast and recordings

A ridge of high pressure will move NE across the British Isles as depression approaches from the SW.

Forecasts for 6 am to midnight:

London, East Angles, SE, central N, E, England, E Midlands: Dry sunny spells, becoming cloudy late in day, perhaps with rain; wind W, light or moderate; max temp 24°C (75°F).

Central S, NW England, W Midlands: dry, sunny spells at first, becoming cloudy with rain later in day; wind SW, backing to W; moderate; max temp 23°C (73°F).

Channel Islands, Wales, N Ireland, SW England: Becoming cloudy with rain in afternoon and evening; wind S to SE, moderate or fresh; max temp 19°C (66°F).

Lake District, Isle of Man, Argyll, SW Scotland, Glasgow: Sunny spells at first, becoming cloudy with rain; wind light or moderate; max temp 20°C (68°F).

Outlook for tomorrow:

Monday: Unsettled with rain at times in most districts, becoming brighter in SW.

Sea conditions:

S North Sea: Wind W, light or moderate; sea slight.

English Channel (E): Wind W, light or moderate, increasing to fresh; sea slight or moderate.

Overseas selling prices

Country	Rate	Country	Rate
Australia	1.00	Belgium	1.00
Canada	1.00	Denmark	1.00
France	1.00	Germany	1.00
Italy	1.00	Japan	1.00
Netherlands	1.00	Portugal	1.00
Spain	1.00	Sweden	1.00
Switzerland	1.00	USA	1.00

Published daily except Sundays, January 1, December 25, and Christmas Eve. Rates are for 100 units of foreign currency against £100 sterling. Rates are subject to change without notice. For full details see the Financial Times website.

White Paper explains reasons for £6 limit on pay rises

neral and above, are con- sidered separately by the Top- ics Review Body, with senior civil servants and other public servants. The feeling in Whitehall last

last night, pending clarification of the White Paper. Medical officers should

us will be response

WEST EUROPE

Dr Kissinger views arms talks with Russia 'optimistically'

From Alan McGregor

Dr Henry Kissinger, the Soviet Foreign Minister, made progress on the whole complex of issues in the Strategic Arms Limitation Talks (SALT) in the American Secretary of State said today.

The two diplomats gave a brief news conference at the conclusion of some 12 hours of discussions today and yesterday. Dr Kissinger said: "We reviewed the outstanding issues in a number of categories and progress was made in narrowing the differences and understanding each other's position. We will work earnestly and with some optimism for concluding an agreement on the basis of the Vladivostok principles" (as set out by President Ford and Mr Brezhnev, the Soviet party leader, when they met last November).

On the Middle East, Dr Kissinger only said that they had discussed the situation, including prospects for comprehensive as well as partial solutions, but he could not say more than that. Mr Gromyko said: "If you think it is so easy to choose the words to use in characterizing the results of the exchange of views on that question, then you would be wrong. For an exchange of views was indeed necessary, and most likely we will be meeting with that question on the crossroads of international politics more than once in the future."

Both diplomats emphasized the invaluable role of their regular meetings in the promotion of détente. Dan van der Vat writes from Bonn: Dr Kissinger arrived in Bonn this evening for talks with West German leaders and Mr Rabin, the Israeli Prime Minister. Dr Kissinger's first engagement was a working dinner with

Herr Genscher, the West German Foreign Minister.

He will meet Herr Schmidt, the Chancellor, at breakfast tomorrow and then have talks with Mr Rabin, who is extending his stay in West Germany by a day for the occasion.

The main topic for discussion between Mr Rabin and Dr Kissinger is the possibility of an interim peace settlement with Egypt, of which there have been persistent rumours in the past weeks, despite public scepticism in Israel.

At a press conference in Bonn today, Mr Rabin poured more cold water on hopes of an early interim agreement. He said he did not expect to achieve such an accord when he met Dr Kissinger. Further meetings would be needed.

Mr Rabin went out of his way to discourage optimism. Instead, he emphasized the need for patience and care, and pointed out that those concerned were in the midst of negotiations. There was no point in accepting an interim agreement if there was a new crisis six months later.

Such an agreement was only of use to Israel if it marked genuine progress towards a long-term peace and a genuine treaty ending the conflict. The Prime Minister criticized the European Community's policy on the Middle East—as set out in the resolution of the Nine of November, 1973, at the height of the oil crisis—as "one-sided". It limited the Community's chance of making an active contribution to peace.

Mr Rabin described his trip to West Germany—the first by a serving Israeli head of government—as a "good visit", but he did not conceal the fact that differences of opinion remained between him and his hosts about a solution of the Middle East conflict.

OVERSEAS

Washington confirms grain talks in Moscow

From Frank Vogel

Washington, July 11

United States exporters are holding negotiations in Moscow, and Government sources said in Washington today that a sale to the Soviet Union of about 10 million tons of grain, mostly corn, is probable.

Mr Earl Butz, Secretary of Agriculture, refused today to disclose details about the size of grain sales under negotiation, but he did confirm the Moscow talks to the Senate agriculture committee.

He suggested that a sale of 10 million tons would "have a minimal price impact." Further, he indicated that it is possible that the Russians may buy much of the wheat they need in Canada.

Mr Butz said that one of his main concerns, now that it appeared the United States would have a record harvest, was that the Government would have to accumulate excessive stocks of grain. Because of this he would look most favourably on a large sale to the Soviet Union.

He indicated that stocks would probably be still too large even if the Russians bought 10 million tons. This comment is being taken as an indication that Mr Butz would like to see the Russians buy even more.

The amount of wheat available for export this year is likely to be vast, Mr Butz said. Production could total 2,200 million bushels. Domestic consumption was unlikely to be much more than 800 million bushels.

The corn crop, it was estimated by the Department of Agriculture, would be a record of more than 6,050 million bushels. The Russians were likely to have a grain shortage this year of between 15 million and 20 million tons, most of which would be wheat. He said no firm sale to the Soviet Union had been reported yet.

Most of the committee members appeared to share Mr Butz's view on the need for large export sales, and none argued that limits should be imposed on exports to the Soviet Union.

Denis Taylor writes: The Russians had been using gold to buy grain, Senator Owen Horwood, the South African Finance Minister, said in London last night. They had been selling a great deal of gold, especially in the last four or five weeks, he added.

Without these dealings, he thought the price of gold would have been higher.

Mr Horwood, who is on a European tour, had talks with Mr Healey, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, in which gold, trade and other topics were discussed.



Mr John Stonehouse, MP, in Pentridge jail, Melbourne, where he is awaiting extradition to Britain next week.

Fight ahead on arms for Turkey

From Our Own Correspondent

Washington, July 11

The House of Representatives foreign relations committee has approved a Bill permitting the sale of American arms to Turkey, thus lifting the ban imposed last January. The vote was 15 to 11, which suggests that there will be a difficult fight on the floor of the House.

It was produced earlier this week after a long series of consultations between President Ford and congressional leaders, culminating in a breakfast party for 100 of them at the White House.

If the Bill passes the House (a similar measure has already passed the Senate) then Dr Henry Kissinger, the Secretary of State, will be able, he hopes, to resume active efforts to persuade the Turks to show greater moderation on the Cyprus question.

The Bill's opponents have pointed out that its repercussions on relations between Greece and the United States might be extremely serious. The original ban was a useful argument for Mr Constantine Karamanlis, the Greek Prime Minister, to oppose the stance of the anti-Americans in Greece who believe that most of their country's troubles over the past eight years are America's fault.

They will now return to the charge, and try to reduce Greece's participation in Nato still further.

Soviet anxiety grows at summit uncertainty

From Edmund Stevens

Moscow, July 11

Soviet policy planners and commentators are becoming increasingly nervous about whether delegations to the European Security Conference in Geneva will settle last-minute snags in time for the Helsinki summit to take place at the end of the month.

Mr Brezhnev, the party leader, is a man very much in a hurry, and every day which passes without agreement threatens to upset his heavy schedule.

The Soviet leadership is counting heavily on an auspicious ending to the security conference to ease pressure at the strategic arms limitation talks (Salt) as well as at the Vienna conference on troop reductions in Europe. Unless there is progress towards military détente, and especially towards a new Salt agreement—the success of Mr Brezhnev's second summit with President Ford would be far from certain, and its advisability therefore doubtful.

An unsuccessful summit would mean a serious setback for the Soviet leader's détente policy and his personal prestige.

A happy ending to the security conference in Helsinki is likewise thought necessary here to clear the way and provide momentum for a conference of European communist parties. The Kremlin could then claim the large share of credit for its patient diplomacy and this would help overcome the reluctance of the Italians.

Romanians and Yugoslavs to a convocation of communist parties.

The dates for Mr Brezhnev to meet these various commitments can only be set once the security conference is concluded, but they must all be fitted inside the rigid time limits set by the twenty-fifth Congress of the Soviet Communist Party convened for next February 24.

Our Geneva Correspondent writes: After a week of day-and-night discussions on fixing provisionally an opening date for the Helsinki summit, the Security Conference would open this evening giving exhausted delegates a rest in preparation for the weekend work.

Despite continued lack of agreement on a date, preparations are continuing on the assumption that the summit will be at the end of the month.

Mr Brezhnev's insistence that the desirability of workshops of non-Mediterranean nations leaving the Mediterranean should be mentioned in the final documents may now be modified by the insertion in the text of an unspecific phrase subscribing to the ideal of reducing forces.

If, no doubt after more hours of discussion, the conference puts together something innocuous on these lines, and provided some other item does not come unstuck, they could just manage to have final texts approved for printing by Tuesday, confirming, also the starting date for the summit.

Hills letter released by Uganda

Uganda radio yesterday broadcast the contents of what it called a "signed document" by Mr Denis Hills, suggesting of improving Anglo-Ugandan relations.

The radio, monitored by Reuters, said the letter was sent by Mr Hills to President Amin on July 4—the date set for his execution by firing squad before he was reprieved.

Mr Hills said in the document that the expulsion of Asians from Uganda in 1972 and the lack of security suffered by some foreigners in Uganda had made it inevitable that British reporting on Uganda should be critical.

The radio quoted Mr Hills as saying that a new chapter in relations could be started through improved British journalists were at present prohibited in Uganda.

The letter suggested that British journalists be invited to make a fact-finding tour "and see for themselves that the people of Uganda live in security and peace."

President Amin swore in five new ministers in Kampala yesterday, the radio said. Major-General Mustafa Adrik, the Armed Forces chief of staff, became Minister of Defence, a portfolio that General Amin has been holding himself.

The President also appointed two women to be permanent secretaries in the Civil Service.

Bold plea by Basques for restoration of privileges

From Our Correspondent

Madrid, July 11

Nearly all the Basque representatives in the normally docile Spanish Parliament (Cortes) joined in a bold appeal here for the restoration of traditional privileges which General Franco took away 37 years ago. The plea, made yesterday by Basque MPs whose loyalty to the Franco regime has not been questioned, came at a time when two of the four Basque provinces—Vizcaya and Guipuzcoa—are still affected by a state of emergency which gives the police sweeping powers.

During a committee debate on a proposed law about local administration, at least eight members of the Cortes from northern provinces argued for more than an hour in favour of restoring the ancient privileges which gave the Basque country a degree of autonomy in fiscal and administrative matters. These were abrogated by General Franco in 1937. Subsequently, up until recently, even such innocent Basque activities as the teaching of their native language was suppressed.

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Dr Mario Soares (left) in Lisbon yesterday after leading the Socialist Party out of the Government. With him is Dr Salgado Zenha, a Socialist who resigned as Minister of Justice.

Explosives used in Belgian war on starlings

From Our Own Correspondent

Brussels, July 11

The Belgian authorities have declared war on hundreds of thousands of starlings that are swarming over the cherry crop in orchards near the city of Liège.

Over the past week, army specialists equipped with explosives have been blowing up the birds' nesting grounds. In one operation, an estimated 100,000 starlings were killed outright.

Local bird protection societies have yet to pronounce on the extermination campaign; but local fruit growers are delighted because the few surviving birds have apparently left the area and the cherry crop is intact.

Prefect ends Naples dustmen's strike

From Our Correspondent

Rome, July 11

The prefect of the Naples province successfully intervened today to persuade dustmen to return to work.

Huge piles of refuse have mounted in the city's narrow streets and clogged in the hot sunshine. Health authorities said there was a danger of epidemics. Two years ago Naples was hit badly by the Italian cholera epidemic.

Dr Domenico Amari, the prefect, stepped in after the dustmen refused instructions from their union and police orders to clear the rubbish.

He gave assurances that their main grievances would be settled.

China find of 2,100 BC pottery figures

From Our Own Correspondent

Peking, July 11

The discovery of a 2,100-year-old pit, with hundreds and perhaps thousands of life-size pottery figures, appears to be one of the most exciting finds in the history of Chinese archaeology.

News of the discovery was given last night by the official news agency in a report from the north-western city of Sian. It said the figures were found at a site near the tomb of Chin Shih-huang, considered to be the first Emperor of unified China, who lived during the third century BC.

The pit, which was discovered by peasants sifting wells, is said to contain several thousand figures of warriors and horses, very life-like, of which only a small portion have so far been unearthed.

President Perón's closest aide resigns

Buenos Aires, July 11

President Isabel Perón of Argentina today accepted the resignation of her controversial top advisor, Señor José López Rega, from his posts of Social Welfare Minister and her private secretary, but included three of his associates in her new eight-man Cabinet.

Surprisingly, she confirmed over Mr López Rega's resignation, Señor Celestino Rodrigo in his post. He and Señor López Rega had been the main targets of labour leaders and parliamentarians of all parties who had been demanding a Cabinet reshuffle.

The Education Minister, Señor Oscar Irujo, another man closely linked with Señor López Rega, was also confirmed. Señor Carlos Villone, brother of the presidential press secretary, Señor José María Villone, and second to Señor López Rega in the Social Welfare Ministry, was appointed to replace his former chief.

The Justice Minister, Señor Antonio Benítez, aged 72, was appointed to replace the outgoing Interior Minister, Señor Alberto Rocamora, and Judge Ernesto Corvalán Nancarrow, aged 56, of the supreme court, was appointed to replace him in the Justice portfolio.

The Government's official notary public, Señor Jorge Garrido, aged 71, was named as Defence Minister, replacing Señor Alberto Savino. None of the three were linked with Señor López Rega, although Judge Corvalán Nancarrow was known as a strong supporter of the President.

Also confirmed in their posts were Señor Alberto Vignes, Señor Cecilio Conditti, the Labour Minister, appointed one week before the whole Cabinet resigned last Sunday to pave the way for a settlement of a prolonged labour, political and economic crisis which rocked Señor Perón's Government.

Reuter.

Delhi hint of plan for single-party regime

From Peter Hazelhurst

Delhi, July 11

The *National Herald*, a Congress Party newspaper, which acts as a mirror of Government thinking, suggested today that India should look towards the one-party systems which exist in black Africa.

In an editorial, passed with the official approval of the Government censors, the newspaper declared: "The independent African nations have solved some of their political problems in a manner which suits their tradition and temper and succeeded though their failure was prophesied by certain foreign powers."

The editorial goes on to say that the Westminster system of democracy is unsuitable for some nations. "The one-party system which Nyerere has introduced in Tanzania, is no less virtuous or democratic than the multi-party system. The Westminster model of democracy need not be the best model and some African states have demonstrated how the people's voice will prevail whatever be the outward structure of democracy."

The *Herald* went on to claim that in a country like India "it is absurd to fight over the merits of democracy." Giving what could be portents for the future, it declared: "A popular government, responsible leaders and an alert people are essential for the success of democracy. Those who have carefully watched the antics and irresponsible role of the Opposition in the past two years would agree that democracy has been derailed by the Opposition."

Gardening

A great day for the Iris

Normally it starts to flower in October, and may go on producing flowers until March. It does respond to a wetter weather in summer, and the plants near the 24-inch level may be pruned to half their length in October.

The flowers of this lovely iris are produced on long stalks and they should be pulled out gently when they are in the bud stage. Placed in water in a bowl on a breakfast or luncheon table, they will often begin to open their petals quite dramatically, as if at a time, so that they appear to be opening from the end of the stem. Several flowers will have opened fully.

Years ago when our girls were small I used to pick some of these iris flowers and put them in small vases on the breakfast table next to the electric toaster so that we could have the fun of watching the petals flick open one by one.

Of course, the genus *Iris* has a large botanical section, and that I will discuss another day. But I must return to this vexed question of watering. We may get more heavy downpours, thunder showers this month; we usually do. Much of this water will run off if the garden is on even a slight slope, down to the street and beyond the reach of the roots. The soil is very deficient of water in many parts of the country and it will take a great deal of rain to restore it to an adequate moisture level.

The next month or so will be crucial for many crops.

Peas, beans, potatoes, summer cauliflowers and cabbages, sweet corn and celery, all those which respond to generous watering have been known to be harmful, but I would be prepared to risk damage if it came to the point where plants were really suffering from drought, watering the soil and not the plants' foliage.

Watch shrubs planted in the past one or two months, especially those in borders against a wall. They can suddenly wilt and will need copious watering at the roots, and spraying several times a day with water.

Remember that a mulch or layer of peat, straw or garden compost, or preferably Zin thick, will help enormously to conserve moisture in the soil—on beds, borders and, even more importantly, on the soil in tubs or window boxes. But you must make sure the soil is thoroughly moist before you put the mulch on.

Also, when you water subsequently, allow a gallon of water to the square yard to wet a peat mulch in deep before you reckon to begin watering the soil underneath. Roughly, you should put on about two gallons to the square yard once a week at least if there is no rain—better still, twice a week.

This advice also applies of course to soil that has not been mulched because a part of the water will evaporate from the surface of the soil.

Of course, we may have some outbreaks of rain, but do not let a few rainy days delude you that the water shortage in the soil has been made up. Keep watering if you are able

to do so until we have had at least 4 in of rain, and that is something in the present situation we will be lucky to get in the southern half of England, at least in July or August.

Many plants are now very near to wilting point. When water is scarce we have to work out our own priorities. But do remember it is no use just giving a sprinkling here and there—far better to give the more valuable plants a good soaking as I have mentioned above. Keep them alive and let the others take their chance.

If you cannot apply water, and cannot apply a mulch, keep hoeing—just loosen the top half-inch of soil. Do not let weeds rob your soil of moisture.

Several readers have asked me if it would be possible to grow young plants from their own strawberries in a plastic tub as described in my article of June 14, using normal garden soil or potting compost; and also is it necessary to grow them in a glass or plastic greenhouse.

As I have not tried to do so I cannot of course write from experience, but I do know that the "Veristraw" system as described in my article was the result of years of painstaking experiment and many disappointments before the right variety was discovered, and the right compost and the right fertilizer formula were arrived at.

The plants are also subjected to a special treatment before they are dispatched.

Roy Hay

Drink

Refreshing summer glasses

Here are some suggestions for aperitifs that can do double duty as casual refreshments for parties in the garden, around the pool or the tennis court. It is simpler to offer a single drink or mixture on such occasions, and even people who usually like cocktails are generally willing to accept a wine-based aperitif on a stuffy day.

Use generous-sized glasses as a practical as well as a hospitable gesture: the small amount of liquid in a tiny glass will become tepid more quickly than a larger helping.

Most people are already familiar with the red version of Dubonnet. It was first created in 1846. Recently, however, the United Kingdom agents, Courtenay, decided that the British market required a special sort of dry drink, quite different from red Dubonnet and any other Dubonnet products marketed elsewhere. So Dry Dubonnet has been evolved. (It does not resemble the Dubonnet Blanche that some may remember being brought out a few years ago for a time.) Dry Dubonnet is based on Herault white wines, like many vermouths—for essentially Dry Dubonnet is a white vermouth—and mistelles (grape juice) and spirit from the Vallee d'Agly in the Roussillon. It is very pale in colour, slightly crispier than most blancos or Italian white vermouths, and can be drunk straight or in a number of mixtures, as both a short and a long drink.

I have found it makes the best vermouth cassis I have ever sampled. For this drink,

you combine one part of cassis (blackcurrant) liqueur with three parts of Dry Dubonnet, both of which are chilled, plus a twist of lemon.

This last is an influential touch; a straightforward slice of lemon will not do, the important thing being to twist the peel over the drink, so that the oils in the skin of the lemon flavour the mixture, not just the juice of the fruit.

A vermouth cassis can be made into a moderately long drink with the addition of soda. Some people use blackcurrant syrup, instead of cassis, but I am firm that the drink needs the slight heightening of the alcoholic content by the use of the cassis liqueur.

Cassis is widely available, but the use of a really good type makes the drink much better than the average: I use the Double Creme de Cassis of Cartron of Nuits St Georges. Cassis is never cheap, because of its alcohol content, but it is only necessary to use a teaspoonful or at most a small dessertspoonful at a time, so a bottle will last for a long time. Cassis is also delicious when poured over vanilla ice cream.

Dry Dubonnet is now widely available, but the branches of Andre Simon at 14 Davies Street, W1, and Elizabeth Street, SW1, definitely have it, and it costs £1.65 a bottle. Double Creme de Cassis, Cartron, costs £3.16 from Dolamore, 16 Paddington Green, W2, and the Dolamore branches at Oxford and Cambridge.

A sparkling wine that may be a novelty is Cadre Noir, from Saumur, made by the Cham-

pagne method. It is dry and crisp and will make a good aperitif if you intend to serve a Loire wine with a summer meal, or it provides all-purpose party drinking for summer.

Cadre Noir, sparkling Saumur, costs £2.25 from Portman & Alsop, Piccadilly, W1.

Some months ago I wrote about Recioto Nodari from Italy, but it is so very much a summer drink that I am reminding readers about it again. It is slightly fizzy, rather than sparkling, a deep, bright red, with a pronounced smell of raspberries. It is a wholly light raspberries.

Although the label describes it as "sweet", Recioto possesses the sweetness of ripe fruit rather than anything sugary. The term "Recioto" means "cane"—the outer clusters of the grapes in each bunch, which catch most of the sun and are therefore the ripest.

You can certainly drink Recioto as an aperitif unless you are going to serve a bone dry wine, such as Muscadet or Chablis at the beginning of a meal, and it is very enjoyable if a couple of slices of a peach or a few strawberries are put into each glass. Should you be giving a party for a birthday, anniversary or similar family celebration in summer, then the Recioto can be a pleasant novelty to go with fruit salad or a cake and be the wine for the toast at the end of the meal. (Recioto Nodari, £1.32 from Hedges & Butler, 183 Regent Street, London, W1.)

Pamela Vandyke Price

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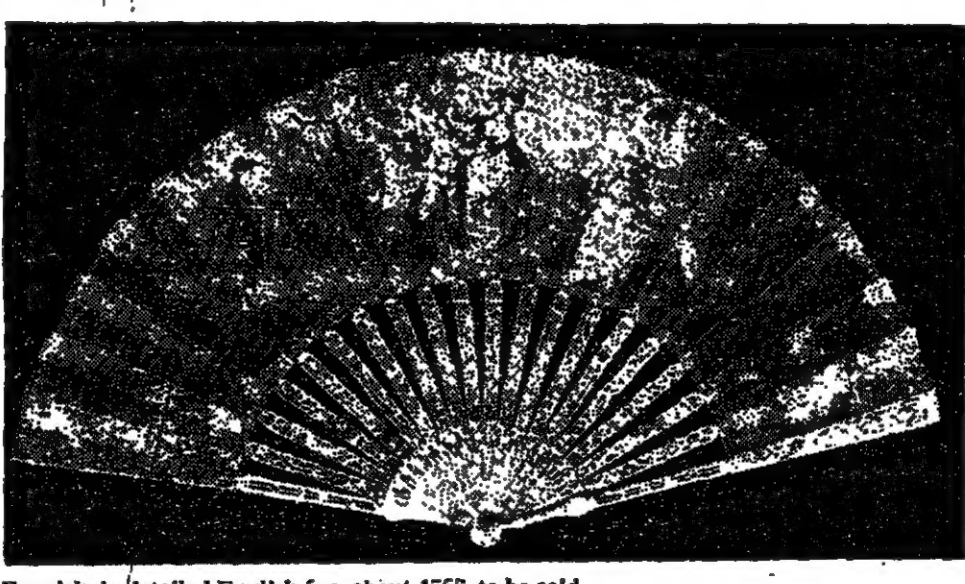
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Antiques

Waving a frail art



Exquisitely detailed English fan, about 1765, to be sold by Christie's, Kensington, on July 18.

A friend of mine was recently made a liveryman of the Worshipful Company of Fanmakers. He found that far from having anything to do with lace-trimmed gowns or ladies in Western gowns, with peacock feathers, pierced ivory or oriental fantasy, the company is now almost totally concerned with electric fans and air-conditioning units. However, he decided to mark his elevation to the awesomely by giving an antique fan to his wife, and wrote to ask me where was the best place to buy one.

Consulting a fan collector, I learnt that one of the best London shops stocking antique fans is Graus Antiques, 125 New Bond Street, W1. Among examples currently on show is an Italian fan of about 1770-80, only 7 1/2 in. long, with sticks of mother of pearl inlaid with gold and a "leaf" of chicken-skin painted on both sides with Italian lake scenes.

Italian city states, and the fashion spread from Italy to France with Catherine de Medici who made her first public entry into Paris as queen in 1549. The interest of collectors is mainly in the central panels. But collectors have to beware of Victorian fashions which belong to that "Proverbs in Porcelain" period when poets such as Austin Dobson were hymning the age of rococo and many craftsmen were mimicking it, including the fan-makers.

This was the heyday of the fan as a social weapon, and Mrs Armstrong amusingly glosses for us the "language of the fan". Resting the shut fan on the right eye, "I am going quietly potty"; in fact signalled "When may I be allowed to see you?" Threatening with a closed fan meant "Do not be so imprudent". To open and shut the fan several times meant "You are cruel". Look out for the girl who shuts the full open fan very slowly. She is saying "I promise to marry you". It could be rather embarrassing, of course, if she was simply having difficulty shutting the fan, or indeed, if one hadn't asked her to marry one in the first place.

Mrs Armstrong's comment on this elegant semaphoric language is: "Silly questions, silly answers." Yet how nice if one could indicate to a bore "I wish to get rid of you" merely by "politely placing the fan on the left ear" (presumably one's own)? I begin to understand why Lord Hervey risked social mockery by carrying a fan, earning him the sobriquet "Lord Fanny".

Bevis Hillier

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Package tour to France for a fiver

The 1975 tourist season looks like being a successful one despite the economic gloom. Indeed, some experts say that Britain is the only major country without a travel recession.

The reason seems to be that people have decided to take a holiday this year come what may. According to Mr Eric Hall, sales planning and research manager of British Airways: "People are going to the theatre less and to sports events less. They are saving their money on the smaller things—but they are still going on holiday."

There are changes in holiday styles, however. There is a growing trend towards do-it-yourself holidays, where people set off for the Continent without a fixed programme and ready for anything. And statisticians like Mr Hall have also noticed that women are taking a more active part in choosing holidays. Something new? No—that is just how things were in 1875.

Exactly 100 years ago the spring issue of Thomas Cook's journal, *Excursionist and Tourist Traveller*, offered "a world tour by steamer" for £170, but the less wealthy had to persevere the smaller type in order to glean ideas for their trip to Europe or farther afield. These were the days when distance and physical barriers like mountain ranges were a very real problem: in 1875 travellers still had to cross the Alps by horse-drawn carriage or, in really bad weather, by sledge.

But the spirit of adventure thrived. And, like those on the back page of *The Times* today, the advertisements in Thomas Cook's journal were the stuff that dreams are made of.

An inclusive tour of France? Prices in 1875 started at £5 (you were issued in London with a three-section coupon which could be used at hotels to get bed and breakfast, lunch, and dinner, and that spring a "well known traveller" reported to Thomas Cook from Paris that he "never saw the place look gayer or prettier").

It was, of course, a Paris that twentieth-century visitors would hardly recognize, many of its landmarks, including both the Basilica of Sacré-Cœur and the Eiffel Tower, have been built in the last century.

A seaside holiday? Cannes was highly recommended, but the contemporary *Handbook to the Health Resorts of the South of France* warned gravely: "The neighbourhood of the seashore is in some cases too bracing and stimulating."

Or perhaps even a pilgrimage to the Holy Land—one of the most popular holidays in 1875 and one which travellers under-

took complete with impressive survival kits. Portable baths, a personal fire escape, which folded away into a suitcase, and a heavy door wedge were recommended to a travelling public which obviously did not trust Continental and Near Eastern hotels, and a still-famous drugs firm advertised a portable medicine chest containing "from 12 to 20 varieties of medicine... Enough to last two for a year."

Packing was a problem, and was to become more of a problem as the century progressed, and the bicycling craze led to organized cycling holidays on the Continent. Routes had to be planned to fit in with baggage allowances, and in order that there should be no improperities, ladies were invited only "if accompanied by a relative or friend."

This was a naive stipulation in an age when women had already shown themselves to be inveterate travellers overseas, and were busy discussing their holiday wardrobes. In a book published during the 1870s, *Travelling and its Requirements* ("addressed to ladies by a lady"), the anonymous author suggested the following packing list for a trip to Norway: A very plain travelling costume; a good dress of any material (black silk is best) for days spent in town; warm underclothes and stockings; a plentiful supply of linen; easy boots (one pair stout, with waterproof soles); warm water or very long jacket; waterproof; and a large sunhat.

Men got similar advice. "Dandyism is as a discount at sea," reported *Morford's Short Trip Guide to Europe*, published in 1876. In a list of holiday hints, the book also made this still up-to-the-minute suggestion to would-be travellers: "First, decide whether you can afford the time and money to go at all. Also, decide whether in going you leave too much of anxiety, personal or pecuniary, for fair enjoyment. Then, having made up your mind, stick to the resolution."

And while our holiday tastes are showing signs of reverting to those of our great-great-grandfathers, the problems that we worry about stay much the same.

You don't speak French/German/Spanish/Greek/Italian, and wonder how you will manage on holiday? *Morford's* has a word of advice: "Avoid the nonsense, which may be so easily put into the mind, of trying to learn any of the languages of the non-English-speaking countries to be visited."

Now there's a piece of nineteenth-century travel philosophy that our twentieth-century European hosts may recognize all too clearly.

Robin Mead

Hunt and Hesketh, the team driving hard to bring home the world racing title



James Hunt and Lord Alexander Hesketh: rousing cheers.

Victory had gone to the driver and team for whom everything had been going so wrong that they looked unlikely ever to achieve their patron's ambition

build their own car, the Hesketh (and Dr Harvey Postlethwaite was wooed away from March Engineering to oversee the design and construction): they would also build their own 12-cylinder Hesketh engine (this costly and complex project was subsequently dropped); and still they would carry a sponsor's colours, just the patriotic red, white and blue stripes on a white car.

Only those who have had to pay the bill know the true cost of designing, building and operating a grand prix car and team; suffice to say that you can probably buy a "production line" formula one car and a set of spares for about a tenth of the price. That way you also buy less trouble, for all the basic development work has been done for you. The only

trouble is you are less likely to win races, for such a car will be less sophisticated than a purpose-built works car. So Hesketh Racing, determined to win races, prepared to shoulder the burden

of developing their own grand prix winner.

The burden proved almost too much. In performance terms the car was an improvement, but as so often the case in the early

life of a new design, reliability suffered. James Hunt was to score points only four times in last year's 15 races, and only once in the first 11. A late-season rally hoisted him to eighth place in the championship table for the second year running, but the only really bright note of the year had been his victory in the non-championship International Trophy race at Silverstone, the team's "home" circuit, a few miles from their Towcester headquarters.

The elusiveness of that grand prix win forced a reappraisal of Hesketh's "no sponsorship" policy. Outside assistance would be essential if the team was to carry on. In the meantime, a stringent economy budget was imposed. All the former evidence of lavish expenditure on comfort, convenience and enter-

tainment disappeared almost overnight, and the team became a minimalist operation while approaching each successive grand prix with greater determination, urgency and seriousness.

This season began on a high note, and James Hunt may have won his first grand prix Argentina but for a small spin in the end he was second. Brazil he was sixth, after a layed start and a climb back through the field.

Meanwhile, all the considerable efforts to obtain commercial backing for the team failed—new sponsorship tracts at grand prix prices had been almost unheard of for years. To make matters worse, early-season performances in qualifying problems were to such that five races were to pass out Hunt being able to add his score.

But not everyone had their faith in Hesketh Racing. An association of wealthy racing enthusiasts calling themselves "Ippokampus" had approached Lord Hesketh for an offer of assistance. It was commercial sponsorship because they were not promoting a duck—indeed, two of the people concerned have chosen to remain anonymous. They are Tony Vissopolo, who is Hesketh's best friend, and a racing version of the "them" angel.

Talks began before they left Holland. Then came great victory at Zandvoort weeks later. In France, Hesketh carried the Ippokampus emblem for the time. Hunt drove another race to finish second, but he was not to add to his tally in the championship table. Now there is another compact car with rubber wings. It will probably make debut in Austria next month. One time there was a hope would have been at Silverstone next Saturday.

Meanwhile, as James Hunt proved in the last two races existing car is far from the hill. So too is the support to their new-found team; maybe not this year, perhaps next, a private with a curly patron and a blond driver with a big smile could be just the people to lead the world championship back to Britain.

John Bluns

George Hutchinson

The Tories' angry men, growing too fast for comfort

This mood must be dispelled. It cannot be allowed to develop

As these dangerous, dramatic moments wear on and all take the plunge with Mr Wilson and Mr Healey, some looking for the best while others fear the worst, a bitter mood is again afflicting both ends of the political spectrum, left and right, rather as it did when Mr Heath confronted the miners (or they confronted him) before the election of February 1974.

However regrettable, it is hardly surprising. Extremes on one side are likely to produce extremes on the other, leading to mutual—sometimes lasting—antipathies and a failure of understanding. A little story will illustrate what I mean.

The other day I fell in with someone who might be called a new Tory extremist, and a wretched but illuminating experience it was. Not that I am unacquainted with extremists of one persuasion or another, but I usually manage to avoid anything in the way of a prolonged encounter.

On this occasion we were trapped (my wife was with me) and realized from the start that we were in for a real harangue.

What our angry Conservative had to say was, in essence, all miners are dirty, idle and unpatriotic. Those were his words. Nothing less. He made no qualification. He recognized no exception. Impervious to protest, he went on to label them a menace to the country. Then, turning to the mining community to a broader charge, he condemned all public expenditure on such amenities as playing fields and swimming baths. Why should we provide these things for people who could not appreciate them? They were a ruinous extravagance.

He was convinced (I need hardly add that as a nation we are finished, without prospect of recovery. Naturally, he denounced Mr Wilson, seemingly the satanic author of all our troubles.

It was dreadful—but an illustration, I suppose, of the inescapable reality that one extreme is liable to provoke an opposite extreme. I had never heard him speak like this before, and find it hard to believe that he has always been the same underneath. I prefer to give him the benefit of the doubt and assume that he has become dangerously stirred up and embittered by some of the wilder militants of the left.

Now this person is of no particular importance; but everyone has importance in a democratic society. Nor do I suggest that he is representative of any great number in the Conservative Party. But whatever the number may be it is palpably

growing and too great for comfort.

Fortunately, there is not the slightest evidence that the mood extends to anyone at all in the Tory leadership (using the term in the broader sense) or otherwise influential in the party. Nevertheless, it is a mood that the leadership will have to contend with and try to dispel. It cannot be allowed to develop without serious damage to the Conservative interest.

However inordinate some of their opponents may be, the Tories will have to preserve moderation within their own ranks. Surrender to their own extremists would be a form of surrender to the other

extremists, too. Nobody can afford that.

Then there is the alleged "conspiracy" against Mrs Thatcher by some of Mr Heath's adherents, which a former minister, Lord Lambton, has been exploring in the *London Evening Standard*. Lord Lambton insists that they are still in business (and the *Daily Express* provides ample evidence for his claim), with the object of propping Mr Heath into a coalition government from which Mrs Thatcher would be excluded, or which she might wish to join, even if asked.

As he argues, such an eventuality would split the Tory Party in two (the *Express* wants to "bury" it anyhow), no doubt to Mr Wilson's considerable satisfaction—his own party having been previously split in two.

My own reading is that nothing can come of all this, if only because Mr Whitelaw will not lend himself to the preliminaries. Mr Whitelaw's

support, not only as Deputy Leader of the Opposition but in his own right, would seem necessary—vital—to such an undertaking. It will not be given. He is already somewhat estranged from Mr Heath. He will not be detached from Mrs Thatcher. Nor would he ever be likely to serve in a coalition administration unless Mrs Thatcher had first been invited (though he might, of course, feel free to do so if she declined).

But the coalitionists in Parliament are not confined to the Conservative Party. They are also to be found in the Labour Government. Mr Roy Jenkins is increasingly spoken of as the keenest of them all, and his man of affairs, the junior minister Lord Harris of Greenwich, has done nothing to my knowledge to discourage the impression.

For my part, I shall not believe in coalition until it happens.

Art for the country's sake

Ambrose Bierce devilishly defined modern painting as the art of protecting flint surfaces from the weather, and exposing them to the critic. The best and best collection of contemporary British art outside the Tate is never seen as a whole by the critic, or indeed anybody. Before this year it has been seen even in part in London only twice in 1955 and 1962.

The collection comprises between 3,000 and 3,500 paintings, drawings, sculptures, and other works of new visual art acquired over the past quarter century, in the years when they came hot and fresh off the brush. For some scholars and some artists the collection can be considered superior even to that of the Tate. If you insist on measuring art with money, it must be worth considerably more than £3m.

And yet the general public, which has indirectly paid for it, little knows nor long remembers the magnificent accumulation of modern art that goes majestically on in its name.

The collection is that of the Arts Council, which, as modern Mæcenas and Medici, allocates money each year to buy the latest work, preferably of rising young stars rather than of established masters. In this way it has acquired superb collections of Henry Moore, Barbara Hepworth, Francis Bacon, David Hockney, and all the others, before they became household names. Inevitably, with the changing eye of instant fashion it has also acquired a few mistakes, or, not to beat about the bush, some rare rubbish.

The collection supports rising artists in the most acceptable of ways, by buying their work and so according it the stamp of official recognition. It supports the public by acting as its life-line to contemporary art, and by exposing the public to the work of the past, and to the work of the future.

The collection was started in a small way during the last war by CEMA, the Council for the Encouragement of Music and the Arts, the embryonic predecessor of the Arts Council. Even in these founding days the idea was to build a national collection of the best current art to take on tour around regional galleries for people who did not get the chance to see modern art in London. The bulk of the collection has been bought since 1946 by the Arts Council.

The year's purchases still travel on exhibition around the regions. They are then loaned to regional galleries and museums, many of which do not have contemporary collections of their own. Without the Arts Council Collection natives of large areas of darkest

Britain would never get a chance to see their country's current art.

Purchasing is done by the Council's Art Panel, a recent practice was to appoint two members of the Panel to purchase, invite them to choose a theme for their year, and allocate them a certain sum of money to spend.

system worked well enough and proved rather inflexible. But occasionally it has been a hard time for the buyers to fit their theme to some fancy title like "Reveries and Sculpture" which had seemed a good idea at the beginning of the year. It is likely that any artist and some artists the collection can be considered superior even to that of the Tate. If you insist on measuring art with money, it must be worth considerably more than £3m.

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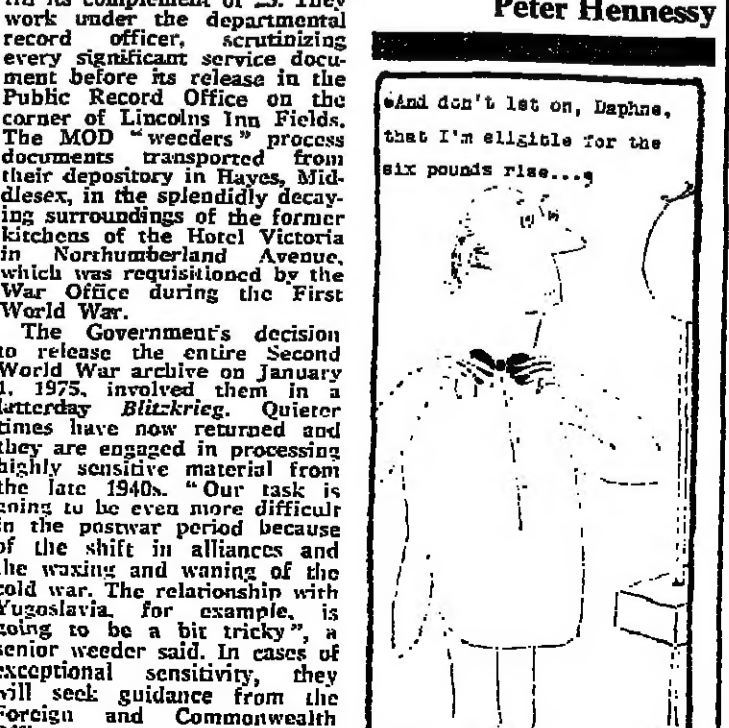
Karen Amiel, curator of the collection, has a new book, *Art for the Country's Sake*, which presents a vast work of art, the collection steadily grows as available space in regional galleries diminishes, she goes on missionary journeys to encourage colleges, offices, factories, caravans, and other centres of modern art to accept the light, and to hang some of the Arts Council Collection.

In addition to its principal purposes of education and encouragement, the 1974-75 selection, *"Drawing of the People"* will be exhibited in London for only the second time of any selection in the Serpentine Gallery in December. The previous year's selection, *"Art as Thought Process"* was shown last December in the Serpentine Gallery. Next summer the year's acquisitions will be shown in London at the Hayward Art Centre, and to hang some of the Arts Council Collection.

Philip Howard



In the weeder's office: another batch of sensitive material goes into the wastebin.



The distinguished white-



A PLAN TO SAVE THE COUNTRY

This is a plan to save our country. If we do not over the next twelve months achieve a drastic reduction in the present disastrous rate of inflation by the measures outlined in this document, the British people will be engulfed in a general economic catastrophe of incalculable proportions.

One reads this passage in Mr Wilson's statement with mixed feelings. It is exactly the warning, almost exactly the terms, which "The Times" has been giving for a considerable time past and with a growing sense of urgency during the present administration. It is good to have the danger of the situation formally and fully recognized by the Prime Minister, but then what attitude should one take towards Mr Wilson? Should one emphasize his responsibility or having brought the British people to the brink of a general economic catastrophe of incalculable proportions? Mrs Thatcher, in a moderate and sensible response, not surprisingly pointed to Mr Wilson's failures. Should one, on the other hand, concern oneself simply with the national need and, even for what might seem the unpromising time, decide to let bygones be bygones?

Perhaps there should be a bargain about this. The rest of us will support the new Mr Wilson, and play down our memories of the old Mr Wilson, if only he will give up the pretence that he is simply maintaining a consistent course of policy. When yesterday the Prime Minister said to Mr Heffer: "I totally disagree where you say that what we have done is contrary to what was put before the country in the manifesto", he was not only asserting a brazen untruth, he was also making it impossible for the rest of us, even by the greatest effort of will, to offer a voluntary suspension of our disbelief. Only if there is some sign of the Prime Minister's willingness to understand where he has gone wrong—and he is only in power because he opposed Mr Heath doing what he is himself doing now—can we suppose that he will not act with equal irresponsibility again in the future.

Nevertheless, the Government's policy is to fight this great inflation, and this Government is the only one we have at present. The policy does represent a necessary sacrifice of political popularity, though the cost in popularity had the Government allowed the inflation to continue would have been far more severe. It also represents a difficult acceptance of wage control by the trade unions—though by only just over half of them. One should not underestimate how difficult it is for the Labour Party or for the TUC to enter once again into compulsory incomes control.

Such control is at present necessary and right; this attack on inflation, whatever reservations one may have about par-

ticular details in it, deserves to be and generally will be supported. This is not because the basic cause of inflation lies in the trade unions rather than in the creation of money. An excessive increase in the money supply is the necessary and invariable condition of inflation at all times; in all countries when there has been an excessive increase in the money supply, inflation has occurred, with or without the benefit of trade unions. Inflation has never occurred, except in conditions of economic collapse, without a preceding increase in the money supply.

Yet the development of monopoly trade unions, and particularly their power in the public sector, presents government with a dilemma. If unions exert their monopoly power, they can raise their own members' wages beyond any increase that can be justified by productivity. The government is then left with a choice between financing these wage increases by an inflationary creation of money or refusing to finance them and facing the consequential rise in unemployment. The fact that every government since 1959 has come to power opposed to an official incomes policy, and that every government has adopted one, strongly suggests that governments have no real choice. The existence of a monopoly supply of labour demands some control of the prices that are set, just as in the nineteenth century the existence of a railway monopoly demanded some control of the prices charged by the railways.

The essential condition is that the supply of money should not be increased in the mistaken belief that a compulsory incomes policy is a substitute for a sound policy on money. The White Paper is not strikingly clear on this point, and this though a pity it is understandable. It is difficult enough for the Government to adopt a compulsory incomes policy without having to declare at the same time that they are going to continue a cautious and limited monetary and fiscal policy. Our reading of the White Paper would be that the Chancellor has every intention of continuing to cut government expenditure; of course government expenditure will be substantially relieved by the limit on wage increases in the public sector. Cash limits will also greatly improve the short term control of expenditure.

From the industrial point of view the policy is unsatisfactory in a number of ways. It puts the onus disproportionately on the employer rather than on the trade union. When the Prime Minister says: "If there are any who seek to abuse a system based on consensus and consent, or to cheat by any means, the Government will not hesitate to apply legal powers of compulsion against the employers concerned, to ensure compliance", he conjures up an extraordinary pic-

ture. We are invited to think of all these wicked, exploiting employers who try by cheating to slip extra money into the workers' pay packets while the honest and upright trade unions express their indignation and horror at such unsocial behaviour. The Prime Minister would strengthen his own position if he could align his rhetoric with common sense.

The fixed rate increase with a limit on £5,500, which will apparently cut out a high proportion of the medical profession, is also going to be a cause of resentment in industry. The last two or three years have been rough years for most professional and managerial people, while the trade unions have been improving real wages rapidly. The salaries paid to British industrial managers are much lower than those in most comparable countries; we shall not benefit by depriving them of even the small percentage increase which would be represented by the £5 a week standard. An incomes policy should not be a class policy directed as an attack on the middle class. Industry will also be concerned at the inability to negotiate genuine productivity agreements, though these have provided a loophole in the past.

Still, middle class or industrial resentment is not what is going to threaten the programme, though it will at some point be threatened by the natural tendency to reassess the differentials which are now going to be eroded. The real question, and it is still an open question, is whether the militants in the unions are going to accept the policy or not, and whether they are strong enough to break it. The TUC accepted it by a narrow margin, and the expectation is that the trade union annual conference will also accept it, perhaps again by a narrow margin. Yet the militant position in the trade unions remains very strong and is supported by a strong Left Wing group in the Parliamentary Labour Party.

Our first estimate would be that the policy will work this time, though Mr Healey will find it difficult to repeat because it starts from a worse situation than previous compulsory policies. The inflation is much higher and the willingness to accept such a policy is less. Given that we are moving into recession and that we have had good, if not perfect, control of the money supply for the last eighteen months, the rate of inflation should be brought under control by the end of this year and for the first half of next year. The strains that this process will impose in the trade union movement and on the Labour Party will be very great. One has to recognize, and put in the Prime Minister's favour, that he is accepting these strains in serving what both he and Mr Healey know to be an essential national interest.

THE SOCIALIST CHALLENGE IN PORTUGAL

The withdrawal of the Socialists from the Portuguese Government is a gamble by the party leader, Dr Mario Soares. Ostensibly he has pulled out over the Republica affair, because of the action by the military in naming a committee to run the newspaper. This the Socialists regard as a flagrant breach of the promise by the Armed Forces Movement to hand the paper back to its socialist management. Dr Soares is therefore simply carrying out a threat he made several weeks ago that his party would leave the Government if freedom of expression was not explicitly guaranteed.

But Republica is clearly only a pretext. The Socialists decided a few weeks ago that this particular issue was not one worth invoking the ultimate sanction of withdrawal. After staying away from cabinet meetings for a few days they found a way of participating again because, as they said, of the serious situation in Angola. Nevertheless, freedom of expression is a fundamental question, and the Socialists would be justified in feeling that they cannot continue in government if they cannot trust the word of the Armed Forces on what for them—and for international opinion—is a vital issue.

For Dr Soares the stakes are now far higher. The real issue is whether the political parties are to have any say in the running of the country. The Socialists were stunned by the proposals of the Armed Forces assembly to set up a totally new power structure responsible only to them and bypassing the political parties. They see this as a clear violation of the wishes of

the Portuguese people who gave the Socialists nearly 40 per cent of the vote and overwhelmingly rejected the Armed Forces Movement's call for a boycott of the elections in order to endorse the very kind of military-run society they also see as a device by which the Communists are increasingly under attack from both the left and the right in the past few weeks, can capture the citadels of power so convincingly denied them in free and open elections. Indeed the Communists and their sister party the Portuguese Democratic Movement (MDP) are the only main political groups to welcome the new proposals; the obvious implication being that they regard neighbourhood councils and people's assemblies as a system of Soviets in which they can exercise influence out of all proportion to their electoral support.

Dr Soares's gamble is that this manoeuvre will be too blatant to allow to pass. If the Popular Democrats (PPD) follow the Socialists out of the four-party coalition, the Prime Minister would be left to carry on with only the Communists and the MDP. General Vasco Gonçalves has bitterly attacked the Socialists for their lack of "patriotism" but he would clearly find it difficult to carry on government—such as there is in an increasingly anarchic situation—without Socialist and PPD ministers representing 64 per cent of the popular vote.

The Socialist withdrawal must therefore provoke a showdown, whose denouement cannot be foreseen. It could, as one far left wing group, the Revolutionary Brigades, said "put these parties

in their proper place: in opposition to the revolutionary process", excluding them from power and ensuring the ascendancy of the communists. But Dr Soares has gambled otherwise. He knows that whoever is in power must make harsh economic decisions very soon. The Armed Forces will not want to be too closely identified with these decisions for the 28 men of the Supreme Revolutionary Council are still men who desperately want to be the heroes of the revolution, even if political ambition is beginning to blunt this need to be loved. Their periodic moves further left can be seen as attempts to remain the idols of the workers. The Armed Forces do not want to be too closely identified with the communists, which they will be if they rule in sole conjunction with them. For their part the communists have no qualms about taking a hard line with the workers if it suits them. And the more responsible members of the Revolutionary Council would welcome the political parties in their ranks if only because the onus of carrying out unpleasant austerity measures could conveniently be placed on them, the elected representatives of the people.

The Socialists and the PPD are therefore in a fairly strong position to force the issue, and insist on real power in return for real responsibility. Today the Confederation of Portuguese Industry is drawing up a final plan for saving the economy; if this is not accepted, they will wash their hands of further responsibility. The non-communist parties are issuing a similar challenge in the political field.

seen priced at 49,000 dollars a pair. Yours faithfully, T. ALWYN JONES, Merrymead, Lynton Way, Winchester.

Male and female roles

From Dr M. J. F. Courtenay Sir, Without wishing to join in the general debate on the ordination of women in the Anglican church, as a general practitioner I must contest the point made in Mr Cuff's letter (July 9) that women are

unable to function in the role of father. In a really deep and informed consideration of the psychological factors I think many of my male colleagues would support my contention that it is common for a GP to function in a mother-role, irrespective of the apparent inappropriateness of our gender. Yours faithfully, MICHAEL COURTENAY, Senior Medical Adviser to the Advisory Council of the Church's Ministry, 76 Lyford Road, Wandsworth Common, SW18.

Accountability of MPs

From Lord Pannell Sir, Mr Frank Allam and Miss Joan Maynard have written to *The Times* to tell outsiders to keep out of judgment on the case of Mr Prentice and advised his local Labour Party to resist all such blandishments (July 8).

If the case goes against Mr Prentice his only appeal could be the National Executive Committee of which Mr Allam and Miss Maynard are both members.

What fairness or impartial judgment can be expected in view of the bias shown by two NEC members? Not much it seems to me. Yours, etc. CHARLES PANNELL, House of Lords, July 10.

From Mr W. D. Fitzgerald Sir, I am writing in response to the letter of Mr Frank Allam, MP and others in regard to the proposed rejection by Newham North East Labour Party of Mr Reg Prentice the local member.

I speak as an executive member of a constituency Labour Party with a certain knowledge of the working of local Labour Party organization and, while holding no particular brief for Mr Prentice, feel that it is so easy for a general management committee to be controlled by the activists who in so many cases are inclined to be left wing and such a person as Mr Prentice is liable to be at risk.

A member of the Cabinet who does not transgress actual government policy is surely entitled to some protection and the onus in these cases should be for the constituency party to actually prove that a member has definitely violated both Government and Labour Party policy. If this process continued then no member of the Cabinet could necessarily be safe from constituency rejection if his constituency organization management committee became dominated by the member's opponents. In the long term no Cabinet member can govern effectively in the name of this country unless he can feel confident that he has the full support of his constituency organization.

Yours sincerely, W. D. FITZGERALD, 4 Ventnor House, Durdley Close, Alverstoke, Hants, July 8.

Squatters and the law

From Mr J. C. Harper Sir, It is not before time that attention was drawn to the unhelpful attitude of the police in cases involving squatting.

There would appear to be three reasons for this. Firstly, there is the understandable reluctance to get involved in the vilification in the underground and popular press if they adopt a more interventionist attitude. Secondly, at least prior to the McPhail case there was a respectable body of opinion to the effect that such evictions from dwelling houses contravened the Statute of Forcible Entry 1381; and thirdly it may on occasion be difficult for a police officer to decide on the spot whether the person requesting the eviction is actually the owner of the house in question. This is particularly the case where a property has been left unoccupied for some time.

The circumstances a practical (though not legally justified) solution might be for the police to distinguish between houses which were clearly occupied (prior to the alleged entry by squatters) by the person requesting the eviction and those which have been unoccupied. This would at any rate be a partial solution to the problem.

Whether or not it is acceptable, it is clearly wrong for the police to maintain that they cannot lawfully evict trespassers whilst turning a blind eye when privately hired security guards have done just that. Furthermore where will the line be drawn as to become the case that the police will evict and/or arrest burglars when summoned by the householder but will plead inability to help when the alleged burglar says he has come to stay? This cannot be right but would seem to follow logically from the horrifying tale told by Miss Elizabeth Harper (*The Times*, July 11).

Yours faithfully, J. C. HARPER, 2 Paper Buildings, Temple, EC4, July 11.

How the other half works

From Mr Keith Edmeades Sir, Chief Constable John Alderson is to be commended for his novel experiment in going on the beat as a one-day refresher course, as reported in *The Times* today.

What a fine example he has set for the rest of us. Can you imagine the benefits which would accrue to industrial relations if his example were to be followed throughout the country? If the top executive of every organization whether large or small, private, public or state-owned, were to spend one day learning at first hand of the conditions and day-to-day frustrations of their men on the job, I submit that the nation would move a lot closer towards industrial harmony than it ever could by our perpetual haggling over statutory wage limits.

Yours truly, KEITH EDMADES, 30 Pensford Avenue, New, Richmond, Surrey, July 9.

Left-handed

From Brigadier R. L. Allen Sir, All violinists? Yours faithfully, R. L. ALLEN, Thorn Knoll, Broadwater Lane, Aston, near Stevenage, Hertfordshire, July 8.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Pay limits and higher income groups

From the General Secretary of the Electrical Power Engineers' Association

Sir, Some of the attitudes now surfacing about people on relatively high rates of pay are disturbing. There was recently the lamentable argument of the General Council of the TUC to the Royal Commission on the Distribution of Incomes and Wealth, suggesting an upper limit of £20,000; referees are made to public servants, professional workers and others who earn comparatively high incomes for the work they do as if they are bordering on the indecent. It was a matter of particular regret (because uncharacteristic), I may say, that even Len Murray in a speech at the other day have bracketed together managers and professional people with "the geists in grey" toppers whose main occupation seems to be guzzling champagne at Ascot.

There is the reported view of the General Council that no one who earns more than £7,000 should receive any increase in the next 12 months—although the logic of the case for a flat rate for everyone is based on the argument that everyone's cost of living goes up equally.

Logic and rationality seem to be going out of the window. This is shown by attitudes taken towards the pay of MPs. They have had no increase since 1972, when their salaries were set at £4,500 pa. Since then inflation has certainly cut the real value of that figure by one-third. Of course their pay should have been adjusted annually like everyone else. The fact, however, they have suffered substantially because this commonsense approach has not been applied is now being used as an argument for the real value of their pay to be cut permanently—simply because the size of the requisite increase now needed is too great for some of the self-appointed leaders of public opinion to stomach.

The fact that it is important that people of ability in all occupations, and particularly working people in both the so called working and middle classes, should be able to become MPs and carry out their job, which is a full-time one, effectively without impoverishing themselves and their families is apparently thought of no consequence whatever in the present climate.

Then again, last Saturday, you carried an article by George Hutchinson rebuking Lord Boyle for recommending a 30 per cent or so rise for the top posts in nationalized industries. He also chose to overlook that their pay has not been reviewed for five years and that the proposed increases did no more, except in one or two cases, than restore the original purchasing power to the salaries of these posts.

What particularly concerns me as a practising accountant, in this new proposal, is not the very fact of the inflation to which we have now become accustomed, but the extraordinary admission by Sir William Ryland when interviewed for BBC television news on Wednesday, July 9, that the effects of inflation on the Post Office Corporation deficit had been "miscalculated".

The figures given in that interview for the Corporation for the year 1975/76 of £50,000,000 when the last increase was put forward. They now say, as a justification for the new proposed charges, that the deficit will be £290,000,000! Does Sir William Ryland really expect the intelligent public to be satisfied with an organization such as his that can "miscalculate" by £240,000,000 within the space of a few short months?

If any of my clients either ran their businesses or were advised by me to run their businesses in an apparently similar inept fashion,

Political diary reservations

From Mr David Butler Sir, Professor Hayward's letter (July 9) does not reflect the views of every member of the Political Studies Association. All too often the arguments in defence of full publication of the Crossman Diaries are put in absolute terms.

Those who have reservations are, moreover, reluctant to express them lest they seem to defend the indefensible—the excessive secrecy practised in the past and the arbitrary distinction between Mr Crossman's revelations and those of other political diarists and autobiographers (it is hard not to feel uneasy when the decision on who publishes what is referred to the courts is left in the hands of those in power, whether it be the Attorney-General or the Secretary to the Cabinet or the Government as a whole).

Surely few proponents of full publication really want to carry their logic to its extreme—the televising of cabinet meetings and the freeing of Ministers and civil servants from any bar to the immediate disclosure of everything they write and say to each other. The challenge, therefore, is to define the proper limits of openness.

In some areas those who govern us might behave more constructively and efficiently if their lightest word were liable to instant publication, but in others their decision-making would be gravely inhibited. Moreover, if the inside information that comes their way is regarded as a salable commodity, considerations quite extraneous to the public interest may shape their conduct.

Open government and efficient government are both desirable goals, but they are not necessarily compatible. The real difficulties lie in where the line should be drawn and how it should be policed. They are not easily resolved. As a teacher of politics and contemporary history I rejoice at the insights offered by the Crossman diaries, but as a citizen, I do think I should be better governed if all my masters, whether politicians or civil servants, were uninhibitedly to exercise the freedoms of a Crossman—and still more if the current precedent established, they were to do so without even the fiction of civil servants' names and which would shorten the time between event and publication.

Yours, DAVID BUTLER, Nuffield College, Oxford.

From Mr Colin Holmes Sir, The issues raised by the Crossman Diaries are not diminished by the fact that the *Times* (July 3) from Mr A. R. Isleris. The six comments which form the core of his argument can be subsumed under three headings: the diaries in official life; that Crossman was an unreliable commentator and, finally, that attempts which are being made to expose public affairs to more immediate scrutiny are largely mischievous or misconceived. Some comment is called for on each item.

First, the country already operates a device for the disclosure of official material which, for instance, in the area of foreign affairs has already worked to its disadvantage in the sense that those countries in which there is more open access have been able to take the lead in formulating their own version of world developments. It is hard to see how it can be realized that in some respects less information is now available for British public consumption than it was in the nineteenth century. This helps to rebut the assertion that efforts to obtain more immediate access to material are misconceived.

On the second matter, I do not know whether or not Crossman was an unreliable commentator. In any case, it is not a crucial issue in the debate: one man's unreliability is not an argument against the principle of greater access to public records. On the final point, I am sure that the mischievous or misguided lawyers and journalists will be able to reply on their own behalf. But these are not the only professional groups interested in the present debate. Access to public records is also of vital interest to historians. For some time powerful opinions have been expressed about the desirability of reducing the period in which records become available for scrutiny.

Such views were strongly expressed in *The Times* in the course of 1962 and have been reiterated elsewhere. The point is that responsible senior historians of widely different ideologies. Their intention has been to ensure an informed debate on matters of public importance and to provide contemporary historians with the tools of their trade. This is a matter of public interest ought also to be considered.

Yours truly, COLIN HOLMES, Senior Lecturer, University of Sheffield.

Unbeatable value

From Mr Gyles Brandreth Sir, Mr Dobell is quite right that 2p is a low price for a postage stamp. It is a wonderful value, but quite wrong to suggest that such good value can't be bettered. On Sunday afternoon I spent an hour visiting the Wallace Collection and another hour listening to the band in Regent's Park. Total cost: nil. Now that's what I call real value.

Yours faithfully, GYLES BRANDRETH, 170 Clarence Gate Gardens, NW1

After Wimbledon

From Mrs Joan Rider Sir, The behind-the-scenes organization must be perfect. Can Captain Mike Gibson now take charge of the country's economy? Yours faithfully, JOAN RIDER, Cedar Cottage, The Glade, Crapstone, Yelverton, Devon.

Fodder from road verges

From Mr J. M. Walker Sir, This summer I note that grass on roadside verges is being cropped to provide fodder. In principle this is an excellent idea, but in view of possible levels of load from motor vehicle exhausts I wonder if the practice is indeed sensible. Further, can I assume that verges sprayed with herbicide are not sufficiently productive to be cropped? Yours faithfully, J. M. WALKER, 4 Waterside Walk West, Rogerson, Newport, Gwent, July 7.

Arabs and Jerusalem

From the Jordanian Ambassador Sir, Mr David Jacobs in his letter on Jerusalem (July 8) seems to have distorted history to an extent that calls for correction.

In 1948 the Jordanian Armed Forces entered Jerusalem to defend the Palestinian Arab majority of the inhabitants of the city within the municipal boundaries as fixed under the British Mandate, who were fighting desperately against continued attacks by Zionist aggression, which forced tens of thousands of Christians and Muslim Arabs out of their homes and into the defended sector of the city.

The truce of 1948, divided the city into two and the vast majority of Jerusalem Arabs lost their homes and property when they were expelled by force. It is the Jews of Jerusalem and not the Arabs who were expelled and forced out. The Jewish inhabitants of the Jewish quarter in the old city were evacuated on the request of the Zionist Jewish Agency as part of the surrender terms.

If "Jerusalem was never an Arab capital" it has never been a Jewish capital either, due to the fact that there never was a recognized national Jewish state before the creation of "Israel" in Palestine in 1948. As for it being the first holy city of Judaism, it is only the third holy city of Islam—it seems futile to base an argument on the legitimacy of claim of sovereignty on the degree of holiness, this city depicts for a certain religion rather than another. Jerusalem is holy to all the religions and will remain the spiritual

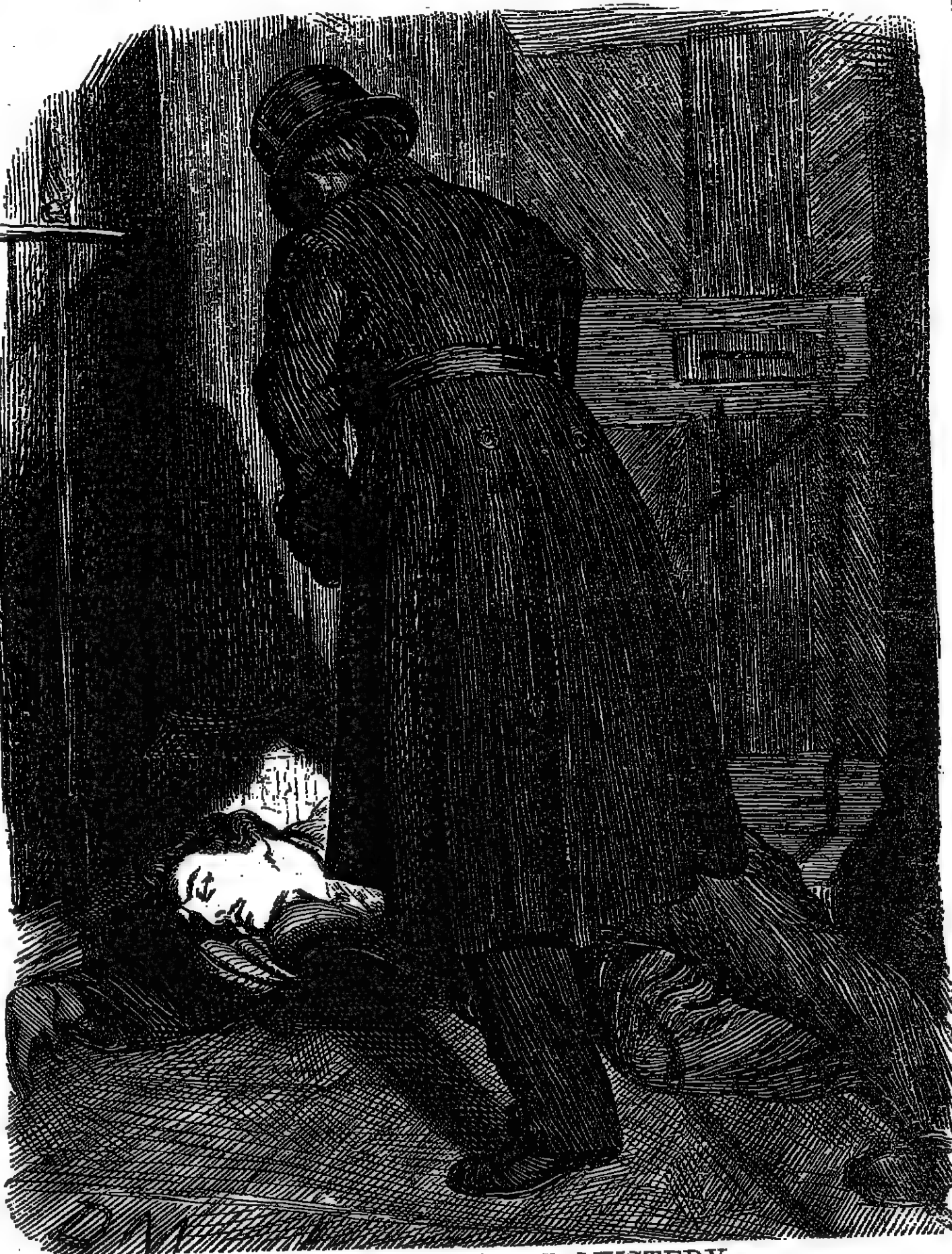
capital of all Christians and Moslems as well, and not exclusively to the Jews. It is this exclusiveness which the Arabs are fighting against in order to avoid making Herzl's promise to Zionism and threat to the world come true, when he said at the first Zionist conference in 1897:

"If we should one day acquire Jerusalem and I am still alive, I shall remove from the city everything that is not holy to the Jews and I shall destroy the relics that have been there for centuries."

Yours sincerely, MA'AN ABU NOWAR, Ambassador, Embassy of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, 6 Upper Phillimore Gardens, W8, July 8.

The first detective novel

by Julian Symons



THE NOTTING HILL MYSTERY.

AN ILLUSTRATION FOR
THE NOTTING HILL MYSTERY IN
ONCE A WEEK IN 1862.

particular, have the right sort of jerkiness and brevity. Felix goes himself in relation to such things as the spelling of semi-literate, like that "most excellent person" Mrs Taylor, who is looking after the Honourable C.B.'s children: I am truly thankful to say the mere children are both out well with miss Karaman made herself on Tuesday and pore miss Gertrude were very bade in consequence for 3 days but his now quit well again.

The book also includes a map of the Baron R's basement, a facsimile marriage certificate and another facsimile of a torn letter fragment written in French (Henderson evidently knows the language, and provides a translation). This was something absolutely new at the time. I have not traced the next use of visual clues, but they were still regarded as unusual when Conan Doyle used similar devices 30 years later, like the letter fragment in "The Redgate Squires" or the code figures in "The Dancing Men".

With all these merits, and with a strikingly modern ending in which Henderson asks his employers whether a crime has been committed at all, and if it has, "are crimes thus committed . . . of a kind for which the criminal can be brought to punishment?", the novel is based upon such outrageous premises that one can't take it seriously.

Baron R is "the most powerful mesmerist in Europe", and his hidden plans are based on the sympathetic feeling between Catherine and Gertrude. It is suggested that poison administered to one may have killed the other. The contrast between the wildly sensational plot-telling and the manner of the end it has to be said that Charles Felix was not Wilkie Collins, and that *The Notting Hill Mystery* is not a masterpiece in the genre but the most engaging of curiosities. Its quality as such has been recognised recently. John Carter sent me a Christie's catalogue in which a copy of it was included in a lot of half-dozen otherwise unremarkable volumes. I went on prepared to pay £20 for it, but the lot fetched more than £50.

This was the most interesting discovery in the BM research which occupied me for a year, during which I read or looked through an average of some eight books a day, reminding myself of many works which I had read in youth but had since forgotten, often mercifully as it proved. Who now remembers Sir Clinton Driffeld, Chief Constable of Blankshire, or Sergeant Bobby Owen, or Superintendent Wilson who varied so strangely in height? Well, those who still read J. J. Connington, E. R. Fensholt and G. D. H. and Margaret Cole, is I suppose the answer.

Crime fiction is an interesting field for the collector, because there is no accepted value to most of the first editions. Specialist booksellers are few and their prices often vary. Most Agatha Christie first editions are offered at between £2 and £5, but if you like to take a little more trouble it is still comparatively easy to pick up a first edition of Christie, let alone Connington, for a few pence on second-hand bookshelves.

The question is, where do you stop? Anybody setting out to collect the 600 odd works of John Creasey—and since he published posthumously, I suppose a number like 800 may be reached—would have little room in his library for any other prolific author. I remember once urging Creasey to cut down on writing and sincerely, "I do try to keep myself down to 12 books a year, but I can't do it, I find myself writing 14." Creasey, the whole literary bulk of him, might I suppose count as a curiosity, and so certainly would the pseudonymous works of the Scottish poet Ruthven Todd.

In 1945 Todd wrote with more than Creaseyan speed 10 detective stories in six months under the name of R. T. Camp, to pay off his debts. But hell, to really 10, did he write 10 books or 12, were 10 published or eight? Death is not Particular, Death is our Physician, No Man Lives Forever and The Hungry Worms were announced, but did they appear, were they written? The publisher, John Westhouse, is long since defunct, and the BM catalogue is unhelpful. When I wrote to Ruthven he said that these four books were "probably written

but not published." I like that, "probably". The note of uncertainty is very much in the crime story's tradition. Anybody who has one of these books certainly possesses a rarity.

The London Library is a splendid place for the browser into ephemeral fiction published before World War II. After that date lack of space, or money, or of both has greatly limited their buying of novels, and particularly (as it seems to me) of crime stories.

Picking books more or less idly off the shelves in my customary way, looking into them for five minutes and putting them back, I came across an extraordinary work called *Sudden Death* or *My Lady the Wolf*, written by B. C. Skotrowe, and published in 1886. One of the novel's recommended guides did tell me something about the work of Bridgite Constable Skotrowe, who was a historian of sorts, and wrote also a couple of textbooks. A schoolmaster perhaps, or a stuffy don, dreaming of sexual worlds beyond his reach?

"Sudden Death", apparently his only work of fiction, suggests that this might be so. It is the first crime story with a transvestite theme. Its murderous hero/heroine is the dashing Gordon Leigh, who has beautiful eyes, small white hands, a slender figure, and altogether "something irresistibly attractive, almost fascinating" about him. The narrator, like most men, feels "strangely drawn to him from the very first". In his feminine incarnation Gordon is the wicked Astaire, "or Miled! Catherine and Gertrude. It is suggested that poison administered to one may have killed the other. The contrast between the wildly sensational plot-telling and the manner of the end it has to be said that Charles Felix was not Wilkie Collins, and that *The Notting Hill Mystery* is not a masterpiece in the genre but the most engaging of curiosities. Its quality as such has been recognised recently. John Carter sent me a Christie's catalogue in which a copy of it was included in a lot of half-dozen otherwise unremarkable volumes. I went on prepared to pay £20 for it, but the lot fetched more than £50.

Curiosities abound in the field of detection. I am sure the London Library alone has more to offer than the things I have casually discovered, and if the amateur collector is not attracted by the thought of being surrounded by Creasey under his 24 different names, there are plenty of other possibilities.

You might try collecting the books in the Haycraft-Queen Cogan Library, already mentioned, or those in my own selection of the Hundred Best Crime Stories. A more limited field would be the murder dossiers composed by Dennis Wheatley, with the help of I. G. Links, in the Thirties. These are crisscrossed with their photographs of characters and scenes, and their real clues of hair, matches, and pills contained in transparent envelopes, are undoubtedly curiosities. There are four Wheatley/Links dossiers and a fourth, *Herewith the Clues*, is a fourth. *Herewith the Clues* is a complete flop. In America they were paid the compliment of imitation, again without repeating the success of the first dossier, *Murder off Miami*, in Britain.

It would be possible to collect

crime comic strips. A correspondent wrote to me the other day, excited by the discovery of a 1934 strip called *Secret Agent X-9*, drawn by "the then top comic strip artist, Alex Raymond", and written by Dashiell Hammett. Making a collection of crime short stories published in book form might also be a financially rewarding, as well as a pleasurable, enterprise.

According to Ellery Queen no more than 1,500 volumes of short stories had been published up to 1950, although this number has perhaps doubled in the last quarter of a century. They include such rarities as R. Austin Freeman's first book, *The Adventure of Romney Riddle* (written in collaboration with a medical friend and published under the name of Clifford Ashdown), of which only six copies are known to exist in the first edition, George R. Sims's *Dorcas Dene, Detective* (1897), and books that few people on this side of the Atlantic have seen, like Percival Pollard's *Lingo Dan* (1903), of which the author wrote that although he did not expect the success of Sherlock Holmes or Raffles, his book was "at least one thing the others are not: American".

Few modern short story collections are rare, and most can be picked up cheaply. My own fancy, which I have indulged only casually, would be for collecting parodies. There are not many good parodies of crime stories, perhaps because the form is so easily mocked. The best parodies, like Beerbohm's, have an edge of seriousness to them. *Scrutts* and *Perkins and Mankind* are nearly Bennett and Wells on off days, Cyril Connolly's *Told in Gath* gets very close to Aldous Huxley.

is called parody is usually simply pastiche. Ellery Queen says that *The Stolen Cigar Case*, a story written in 1902, is "probably the best parody of 'Sherlock Holmes ever written'". Well, perhaps, but it is more likely to have been a pastiche, like the Queen collection of 33 pastiches and burlesques, *The Misadventures of Sherlock Holmes*, which was suppressed by the Doyle estate.

There have been attempted parodies of almost every great amateur detective. Poirot and Thorndyke, Father Brown, Nero Wolfe and Peter Wimsey, as well as James M. Cain and Raymond Chandler, but Dwight Macdonald did not think any of them good enough for inclusion in his anthology of parodies. Even Connolly's much-praised *Bond Strikes Camp* seems to me too camp itself, too knowing for total success. The best crime parody I know, a distinct achievement in the sense that it is carried on through a whole book, is *The John Riddell Murder Case*, by John Riddell.

Who was John Riddell? That question I can answer. He was an American humorist named Corey Ford, and the author parodied was S. S. Van Dine, whose languid, elegant, intolerably erudite aristocratic detective Philo Vance was then at the height of his fame. The pomposity of the Van Dine style is perfectly caught:

The series of uncanny and apparently unrelated events which constituted this palimpsest of horror began on a mild, luxurious morning in early April, when I was breakfasting with Vance in the little roof-garden atop his apartment on East Thirty-eighth Street. Vance was a young social aristocrat who had acted several times in the past as a sort of amusing curio for his friend John F. X. Murkham, the District Attorney; and for the past five years I had deserted the cause of literature to devote my pen exclusively to his sanguinary experiences. . . . On the fatal morning of which I write, Vance had come to breakfast rather late, having been occupied most of the previous night preparing a brief monograph on early Hittite ramp-collecting for *The Philatelist Quarterly*—a task which the bizarre events of that morning rudely interrupted. . . . And so is Vance's style of conversation, as he translates a comment in Walter Winchell's column: "John Riddell, loma tome solon, will fold up in his verb-and-adjective garage at 9 this (Monday) yawning."

"I beg of you, old dear," Vance protested with a quizzical smile, "Middle-Broadway Winchell is a most difficult language. Coptic and Assyrian and Sanskrit are Abecedarian beside it. However, let me give you the literal translation of a few phrases." He opened the dictionary and adjusted his monocle. "Tome solon, n: fiction reference; novel-and-poetry arbor; current Meucken. Verb-and-adjective garage, n: book mausoleum; reading asylum. Fold up, v: to close down; bump off; go pitft. . . . Put into English, it reads: 'John Riddell . . . book reviewer . . . will meet his death . . . in his morning'."

The tone is just right, an exaggeration which never becomes preposterous. Vance's form is highly ingenious. Riddell's body is surrounded by the season's best sellers, who include Theodore Dreiser, Sherwood Anderson, Erich Maria Remarque and Beverly Nichols. There are lively caricatures of illustrations of them, as well as of Van Dine himself, by Miguel Covarrubias. Each chapter carries on the story (well, more or less), and each is written as a parody of the best-selling writer. "In the manner of Beverly Nichols" or "Anderson or Dreiser. The result is a devastating criticism of Philo Vance, and naturally of Van Dine.

One must avoid grandiose claims. Few people now read Van Dine, and fewer still recall some of the best-selling parodies, like Peggy Hopkins Joyce (who had a great success with her daring autobiography, *My Marriage and Me*), the traveller Richard Halliburton or the poet Joseph Moncure March, whose *The Wild Party* was causing a stir. *The John Riddell Murder Case* is an amusing, adroit and occasionally witty book, but it is out-of-date. It does deserve, though, a place of honour, beside Charles Felix and B. C. Skotrowe, in the crime fiction addict's cabinet of curiosities.

JOHN RIDDELL— INVESTIGATING A CASE OF BOREDOM



THE JOHN RIDDELL MURDER CASE A PHILO VANCE PARODY

By JOHN RIDDELL
Previous complaint: "Missing No Offense"
Accused of:
SALT WATER TAFFY
Illustrated by Nigel Gammeter
LONDON
CHARLES & JOSEPH SONS

Who wrote the first full-length detective story? The obvious favourite is *The Moonstone*, which was called by T. S. Eliot in a famous phrase the first, the longest and the best of detective novels in English.

The book was published in 1868, and very likely Eliot made that "English" qualification because he knew that Emile Gaboriau's first crime story, *L'Affaire Lerouge*, had appeared in serial form as early as 1863. Collins and Gaboriau, however, are not the only contenders. The first full-length book recommended in the "two centuries of cornerstones" making up Howard Haycraft's and Ellery Queen's "definitive library of detective-crime-mystery fiction" is *Bleak House*. Claims have been made for Godwin's *Caleb Williams*, for Le Pere Goriot and for Bulwer Lytton's *Peckham*. None of these, though, has a crime and its detection at the heart of the story, although they show detectable elements.

My own candidate is *The Notting Hill Mystery*, which I read for the first time six years ago when I was working on a history of the detective story. The book, which in some ways anticipates the style and theme

of later detective stories, quite bowled me over. The year of publication was 1865, the author was said on the title page to be Charles Felix. I shall say more about the book, but my immediate preoccupation was with the author. Who was Charles Felix and what else had he written?

The name had an air of pseudonymity about it, and this was confirmed by the British Museum catalogue, which said FELIX, Charles (pseud.). See HENDERSON, R., and O.T., I. But the BM catalogue, as any soon learns, is subtle, deceptive and full of traps for the innocent. R. Henderson was fictional—was, indeed, the narrator in *The Notting Hill Mystery*, which is said to be "compiled by Charles Felix from the papers of the late R. Henderson, Esq." And T. O.T., the author of *Barefooted Birdie*, a *Simple Tale for Christmas*, proved also to be Charles Felix. There were two other books listed under Felix's own name. I read these three deceiver novels as well as *Barefooted Birdie*, in a quest for the late R. Henderson, Esq., and he had written something else as good as *The Notting Hill Mystery*. The pages of *Ram Dass* and *Barefooted Birdie* were uncut, and as I slit them in a surreptitious way with a nail file, I felt not only slight guilt, but also an explorer's sense of excitement.

Not for long, however. *Barefooted Birdie* proved to be the most distastefully sentimental of

Victorian Christmas stories, *Felix's Laun* no more than a competent melodrama, and *Ram Dass* a variation on a standard Victorian theme of the wicked man from the East lusting after a white girl. I turned to bibliographers and in particular to John Carter of Sotheby's, whose death this year was a sad loss to those interested in detective and other literary byways. Forty years ago Carter produced the first serious catalogue of detective fiction and although his interest in the subject had long since waned, he treated me with his customary elegant urbanity. He knew nothing about Charles Felix or his book, but told me of several guides to minor Victorian writers which might be useful. Alas, Felix was too minor for any of them. I found out also that *The Notting Hill Mystery* had first appeared anonymously as a serial in the journal *Once a Week* in 1862. *Once a Week* was a rival to Dickens's *Household Words*, and the book was almost certainly written in the hope of a success comparable to that of Wilkie Collins's *The Woman in White*, which had recently appeared in Dickens's magazine. The anonymity of the original publication suggested that the author was perhaps on the staff of *Once a Week*. A history of Victorian magazines might have told me something about him, but although almost every other aspect of Victorian life has been explored in sometimes excessive detail, no such

history exists. The last glimmer of hope came when I learned that the book had been printed as late as 1945. In *Novels of Mystery from the Victorian Age* chosen by the dozen of crime critics, Maurice Richardson. The gleam was extinguished when Maurice told me that they had reprinted from *Once a Week* the story of Charles Felix, and did not even know that the serial had appeared between book covers.

So far the mystery of Charles Felix, which I hope may be solved one day, perhaps even through this page of *The Times*. But something more has to be said about *The Notting Hill Mystery*, both to justify my view that it is an original and very interesting work, and to explain why it is not in print.

It has what was for the time an unusually factual approach. Ralph Henderson, the narrator, is an investigator for a life assurance company, and tells the story in his reports to his employers. These reports include extracts from correspondence, journals and memoranda, extracts from a doctor's diary, statements and depositions by people of all classes involved in Henderson's attempt to discover whether Baron R. was responsible for the death of the wife whose life he had insured with five different companies at £5,000 a time.

The effect is very much like that of a modern documentary crime story. Statements made by working class characters, in

Travel, p10 • Gardening, Antiques and Drink, p11 • Chess and Bridge, p10

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Lower Regent
17 OF THE

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Today 12 July 7.30 p.m.	SIRION HUNTING Rhythmic songs Fantasy for guitar (1st performance) Works by Ferragamo, Rameau, Sor, Ravel, etc. 19th & 20th Cent. Composers.
Monday 13 July 7.30 a.m.	CHARLES RAMIREZ Soloist: CLAUDIA MUNIAN Guitar Duo: John Jennings Concert Agency
Wednesday 15 July 7.30 a.m.	FRANK EICHERBERG Concert pianist MYRIAM EICHERBERG Concert pianist (Artistic Management)
Thursday 16 July 7.30 p.m.	JOHN ZARADIN Soloist Concert: Allen Concert Management

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JOAN MIRO
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Paintings 1971-1975. Sat. 10.45-5.45
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Tuesday, 15th July at 7.30 p.m.

THE TWENTIETH CENTURY

Directed by Edwin Rastbury
Stephen Savage
Concerts of Music by the
Chamber Orchestra No. 1 of
the Twentieth Century
Wed. 15th July, 10.15, 11.15, 12.15
Opera in the Park Theatre
Conductor - Richard Alden
Tickets obtainable from the Music
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ROYAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC

LONDON NW1 8HT
SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
CONCERT
TUESDAY 22nd July
ELGAR: Introduction and Allegro, Op.
67
MAHLER: Symphonies Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4
BRUCKNER: Symphony No. 4
DUKAKIS: The Walls of Malta

SUNDAY IN JULY

at
ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL
Religious Communities will be celebrated at
7.30 a.m. with special Masses at 10.15
and 12.15. St. Paul's Chamber Organ
will play in the afternoon.
The National Mass Organ Joseph Haydn
will play in the afternoon.
July 20th
Masses in G. Schubert

HANDS AT MANOVER SQUARE

Music Chamber Orchestra
Conductor: Richard Alden
Tutor: Brian Burrows
The National Mass Organ Joseph Haydn
will play in the afternoon.
July 20th
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MUSIC STUDIO with grand piano

practical or teaching. Victoria

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Mon-Fri 10.30-5.30 and Sat 10.30-5.30

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at the United 27th July. Weds 10-6
Thurs 10-6. Fri 10-6. Sat 10-6. Sun 10-6
and the PRIVATE ROOMS
at the United 27th July. Weds 10-6
Thurs 10-6. Fri 10-6. Sat 10-6. Sun 10-6
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HANDS AT MANOVER SQUARE
Music Chamber Orchestra
Conductor: Richard Alden
Tutor: Brian Burrows
The National Mass Organ Joseph Haydn
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July 20th
Masses in G. Schubert

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at the United 27th July. Weds 10-6
Thurs 10-6. Fri 10-6. Sat 10-6. Sun 10-6
and the PRIVATE ROOMS
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Students and graduates will be
presented at the United 27th July.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC
Princes Consort Road, S.W. 1.
Tuesday, 15th July at 7.30 p.m.

THE TWENTIETH CENTURY
Directed by Edwin Rastbury
Stephen Savage
Concerts of Music by the
Chamber Orchestra No. 1 of
the Twentieth Century
Wed. 15th July, 10.15, 11.15, 12.15
Opera in the Park Theatre
Conductor - Richard Alden
Tickets obtainable from the Music
Secretary (s.e.s. prices)

ROYAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC
LONDON NW1 8HT
SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
CONCERT
TUESDAY 22nd July
ELGAR: Introduction and Allegro, Op.
67
MAHLER: Symphonies Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4
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DUKAKIS: The Walls of Malta

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100

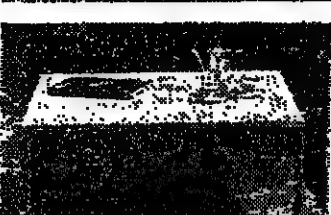
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Postal and Weekend Shopping

also on page 22

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Because I wrote enthusiastically about New York, I have offended Mr. Tom Lewis of Bristol—or, possibly, Tim, for his signature was hard to disentangle. His was among the many letters I received following the article on this page, a couple of months ago. Happily, most of my correspondents wanted information about Advance Booking Charters. But a few, and Mr. Lewis was among the more extreme, claim that the publishing New York was foolish and irresponsible.

They referred to the seamy side of the city's reputation, its crime and violence. Mr. Lewis wondered if I had:

...before suggesting that readers of *The Times* expose themselves to that violent society?

Bringing the image industry of cinema (or television) into an argument about the world of reality is a dangerous tactic. A film, no matter how well acted or directed, is not reality, and in this context, *Death Wish* is as relevant as *On the Town* or *Breakfast at Tiffany's*.

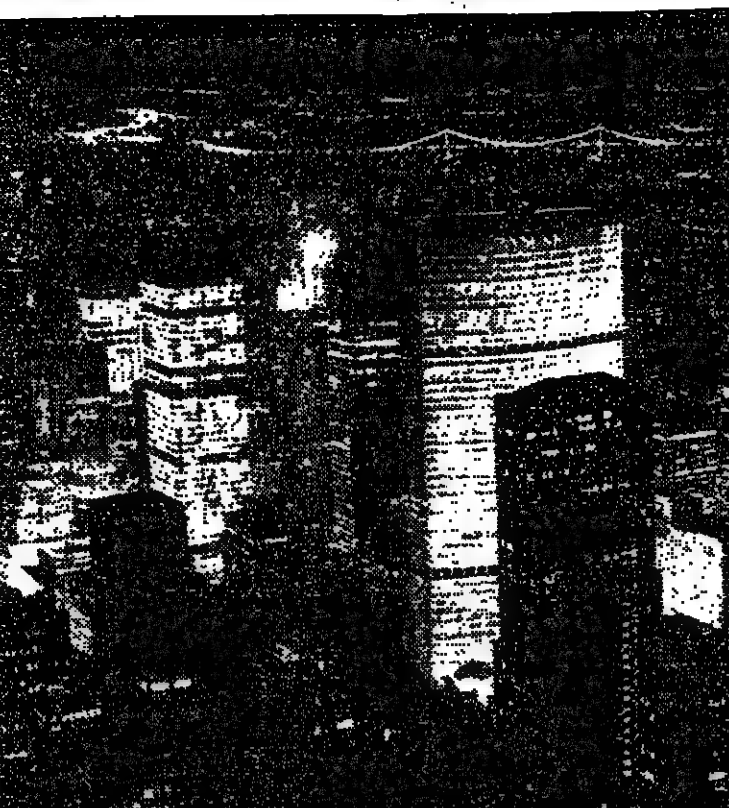
If, like Mr. Lewis, you wish to stay away from cities in which crimes of violence are committed, then London should be on your list. And is violence unknown on the streets of Bristol?

However, I do not want to become involved in this particular argument just now, but would like to mention some "offbeat" aspects of a visit to New York (and to America in general, for that matter) which deserve to be better known.

Few visitors, for example, journey further north in Manhattan than the Lincoln Centre or the Metropolitan Museum of Art, because farther north and you are in Harlem, the city's Black Capital.

What is the area that too often represents the seamy "don't venture there" aspects of New York? Yet a company called Penny Sightseeing has been happily running three-hour coach tours of the district for well over 20 years, and I have taken the trip myself on a couple of occasions. For about £2.20 it covers the City University, the Apollo Theatre and the former home of Alexander Hamilton, among other sights. If you happen to be around on Sunday morning, there is a special tour taken in Harlem church for a gospel singing service.

A company called New York Experience also offers a special service, an evening tour that does not, like so many organized trips, have you herded around in a large



group. In fact, the groups are limited to five people and the evening begins with cocktails at the home of a New York host or hostess who then takes you off to dinner at an ethnic restaurant, to jazz clubs, an off-Broadway theatre or other places of interest to the particular individuals forming the group. The cost—just under £29—covers all drinks throughout the evening and whatever you care to order for dinner, and the "guides" include a librarian, stockbroker, surgeon, film producer and psychologist. You let the company know your likes and dislikes when you book the trip, so you can be fitted into a compatible group.

Such an excursion also serves the purpose of enabling you to get to know New Yorkers as well as their city, and the same principle is behind the wider-ranging Meet the Americans scheme. This is being promoted with special emphasis as part of the country's Bicentennial celebrations, although trips from Britain have been organized for this year.

The idea is for Britons to spend part of their stay as non-paying guests of a host family and the pattern usually works out at three or four days in a major city (New York, Boston, Philadelphia or

Washington DC) and 10 to 14 days at the home of one's hosts.

The cost of the trip depends, naturally, on the amount of travel between the arrival city and the home of the family, but around £200 is likely to be the maximum figure. This covers transatlantic air travel, hotel accommodation in the arrival city, and transport to the host family.

If you want detailed information about this Meet the Americans scheme, write to Peter and May Sale at 32 St John's Road, Clifton, Bristol, BS8 2HG.

The prices you pay do not, of course, cover your incidental expenses in that arrival city, and of these the cost of meals is likely to figure prominently in your budgeting. And that brings me back to another comment of mine a couple of months ago which also produced reaction from readers. It was to the effect that New York's restaurants were, in themselves, reason enough to take me back to the city. At least half a dozen letters picked up this point, arguing that meals in New York were low on quality and high on cost.

In this respect New York can only be compared with big cities here in Britain and of those London is the fairest

Travel

Offbeat New York



comparison. Now, whether you compare a restaurant in Greenwich Village with its counterpart in Soho or a lunchtime snack in a London pub with what you can get in a New York bar, it is the case that New York offers better quality and quantity at a cheaper price than London.

And if you carry the comparison further, setting the Manhattan coffee shop against the West End snack bar, the difference—in New York's favour—is astronomical. Not only do you get more and better for less cost, but service and hygiene are incomparably better in New York.

However, if you are looking for a restaurant or a bar "with a difference", I can thoroughly recommend two establishments I visited on my last trip.

The restaurant is Ari at 13, East 12th Street, in Greenwich Village. A large room with a bar running down part of one long side, the kitchen is lined with row upon row of tightly packed rows of photographs and posters. If nothing else, the pictures give the clue, for they are of opera stars, many of whom have signed their portraits to mark a visit.

When you enter Ari's, as I did with some trepidation, it is to the strains of music. Full

bodied, full blooded opera music, not anemic cocktail time tinkling from an apologetic trio.

The lady who checks your coat turns up a few minutes later as Carmen, the waiters are by turn chorus or soloists. Even the barman gets into the scene, though his singing is decidedly non-operatic and his playing of the musical bottles is more fun.

In the middle of serving our vegetables, the waiter downed dishes and darted over to the dais to seize a brimming champagne glass and help out with one of those rousing drinking choruses which are so hard to place even when sober.

The food is Italian and good. Not great, as I believe the restaurant would honestly admit. The singing may not be the greatest in the world either. But put them together, drag in the customers for walk-on parts ("Here's a candle. Be a nun.") and you have the makings of a memorable evening.

The bar with a difference is Jimmy Ryan's, which used to be on West 52nd Street, but which is now at 154, West 54th, between Sixth and Seventh Avenues, and is the oldest jazz club in New York. The enthusiast I happened to be with reckoned that Jimmy Ryan's music was not pure

Dixieland, but whatever it was it pleased him, and me.

What I particularly liked about Jimmy Ryan's is that there were no extra charges, no cover charge or requirement that you spend a minimum amount on your drinks. Nor are you pressured into buying drinks. It is a fine way to round off a late evening.

With trumpet player Red Eldridge leading off during the week and Max Kaminsky's band playing on Sunday evenings.

During my last visit I had an opportunity to travel away from New York for a day, and chose as the destination a place named Mystic Seaport. I chose it, incidentally, for no other reason than the name caught my eye and imagination when reported in a magazine advertisement.

It turned out to be a long car ride—into Connecticut, Interstate Highway 95, which runs more or less parallel to the coast for 2,500 miles from the north shore of Long Island Sound, just past New London, and a handful of miles before Rhode Island, was turned towards Mystic, a community of around 2,500, divided by the Mystic River. Settled in 1654, it was a ship-building and whaling centre from the seventeenth century, and Mystic Seaport is a museum designed to preserve that small part of America's maritime heritage. Moored along the river front are the tall training ship *Brilliant*, the square rigged *Joseph Conrad* and the huge *Charles W. Morgan*, the only wooden whaling ship surviving from America's nineteenth-century fleet.

Nearby, a village has been observed, many of the buildings having been brought to the site and others restored with fantastic attention to detail and historic accuracy. Tavern and an apothecary, the carpenter's and the shoeing press are located there, along with the tavern, stores and the bank. The whole area has been laid out in a way which does credit to those responsible, and is happily free from gimmicky and gaudy.

Mystic Seaport is a destination to bear in mind, possibly as one stop on an excursion from New York into Connecticut and Rhode Island. Or you may even head farther north into Massachusetts and find yourself driving through places with familiar names—Worcester, Shrewsbury, Leominster and Northampton. But no name on the map caught my imagination like that of Mystic Seaport, and I am glad that I did.

John Carter

Travel books

It is vicarious travel time again. Journeys down the Amazon, by J. M. Cohen (Charles Knight, £4.50) makes fascinating reading. The author is not writing about his own experiences, but those of the early explorers, and as the history of Spanish and Portuguese incursions into the interior and the eventual fall of Brazil to the latter, a fascinating picture of the country's development emerges. In the first expedition, that of Gonzalo Pizarro, "Disaster began early. As the expedition was crossing a paramo, probably on the side of the volcano Altidizana, they heard the roar of a distant eruption." Those were dangers from nature; others came from the natives:

The Indians came on with a great peal beating their drums and blowing their wooden trumpets, threatening us as though they were going to devour us.

On the other side of the world but equally unknown to most people is Nepal, high in the Himalayas. Christoph von Fürer-Haimendorf, however, knows it well and was the first anthropologist to explore the region. Like Mr. Cohen's book, Haimendorf's *Traders* (John Murray, £7.50) is not a travel book but a discussion of trade. Himalayan trade which has been of vital significance to the inhabitants. This trade was disrupted by the Chinese occupation of Tibet. Professor Haimendorf does not limit himself to

the well known Sherpa people, but reveals details about others like the Bhodhas, the highlanders of the Dhaulagiri Zone, and the traders of Karauli Zone.

Some people are addicts of islands, and I am one of them. We need more than a guide book and David & Charles produce just such a series which has inspired me to write my own contribution. I've just sent off my manuscript on the Aeolian Islands, so I know just how much hard work and research is involved.

One of the latest is Sardinia by Russell King (David & Charles, £4.95). He's also done Sicily as well in the same series, and like the others it

provides a complete picture of this island. It is not really for the first-time visitor, but for those who have visited the island once and are anxious to know more about the history, structure and life in the islands in more than a superficial way.

I have planned one day to take a trip down the Loire, visiting the Chateaux, eating and drinking, when the day comes that I cease to be neurotic about weight. The Loire by Sean Jenett (Bantam, £3.95) has served to feed this ambition. Armed with this readable combined history, geography and descriptive book, I have even found my attention diverted from food for a time to wander through the chateaux, admire the buildings

and splendid carvings and gardens. The book is illustrated by black and white photographs taken by the author. I have seen very beautiful books about the Loire, but these have usually been large and difficult to carry around. This book has no pretensions to space on a coffee table, but it is a handy size and full of useful information for the traveller.

I am not particularly fond of Normandy (my favourite time about it is a trip *à la mode de Caen*) not because it isn't interesting or unpleasant, but simply because the climate is too similar to that of Britain for me, as I have had weather for my holidays. But that is precisely the reason why many British

families find Normandy so attractive, especially those with young children, who sometimes find the heat of the Mediterranean oppressive.

For them Peter Gunn's *Normandy* (Gollancz, £5) is an excellent book with lovely illustrations, covering all aspects of life in the area. I found the chapter on two Norman women, Charlotte Corday and St. Teresa of Lisieux particularly appealing, but others might prefer the chapter on the Normans, the descriptions of the Normans, the chateaux. Once again, the illustrations are enticing, even though, again, they are in black and white.

Margaret Allen

Chess

Next, the mousetrap

When, the other week, I returned to the long-distant past and referred to the pleasures of a visit to my grandfather I had no idea how much I wanted to go back to that golden period "du temps que j'étais jeune" when Dutch Gouda cheese and ambrosia were hardly distinguishable.

But I had built better than I knew. For the other day the postman delivered a vast round of Gouda cheese.

It tastes almost as good as it did when I was a boy. Not quite as good, since nothing tastes as good nowadays. Possibly this is due to age, but I prefer to blame it on the Zeigler effect: neither cheese nor chess are as perfectly delicious as they were half a century ago. Still, I must assure the Dutch Dairy Bureau—who sent me the cheese—that I really appreciate their gift.

Curiously enough, it is at a place renowned for its cheese that something very fine has happened in Wales. It was at Caerphilly in Glamorgan on June 21 and 22 that their players met the assembled might of the Dutch and put up a splendid show in the Preliminary of European Team Championship.

Intent on scoring the greatest number of points, the Dutch brought their strongest team. Of the eight players two were grandmasters and five were international masters. The Welsh had no titled players and yet they lost by only 54-103. Indeed, on the top four boards Wales won by 43-31 and the individual results were:

C. S. Botvinnik 13, J. Timman 11, A. H. Williams 10, S. Sosonko 10, S. J. Hutchings 1, J. H. Donner 1, J. G. Cooper 1, H. Ree 1. Timman and Donner are grandmasters, and Sosonko and Ree international masters.

Coming on top of their remarkable showing at the Nice Olympiad last year where they qualified for the top final section, this confirms one's impression that there is a lot of chess talent in Wales, especially among the young.

All this may be a waste of powder and shot on my part, since I am now told they no longer make Caerphilly cheese at Caerphilly. Meanwhile, I give a very lively game that was played in the match on June 21 on the fourth board.

White—J. G. Cooper Black: H. Ree.
Q.P. King's Indian Defence
1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 e6 3. Nc3 Bb4 4. e2 d5 5. Nf3 O-O 6. Bg5 h6 7. Bh4 c6 8. Qc2 Nbd7 9. Bf3 Re8 10. Qb3 Bf8 11. Qa4 Bg7 12. Qb3 Bf8 13. Qa4 Bg7 14. Qb3 Bf8 15. Qa4 Bg7 16. Qb3 Bf8 17. Qa4 Bg7 18. Qb3 Bf8 19. Qa4 Bg7 20. Qb3 Bf8 21. Qa4 Bg7 22. Qb3 Bf8 23. Qa4 Bg7 24. Qb3 Bf8 25. Qa4 Bg7 26. Qb3 Bf8 27. Qa4 Bg7 28. Qb3 Bf8 29. Qa4 Bg7 30. Qb3 Bf8 31. Qa4 Bg7 32. Qb3 Bf8 33. Qa4 Bg7 34. Qb3 Bf8 35. Qa4 Bg7 36. Qb3 Bf8 37. Qa4 Bg7 38. Qb3 Bf8 39. Qa4 Bg7 40. Qb3 Bf8 41. Qa4 Bg7 42. Qb3 Bf8 43. Qa4 Bg7 44. Qb3 Bf8 45. Qa4 Bg7 46. Qb3 Bf8 47. Qa4 Bg7 48. Qb3 Bf8 49. Qa4 Bg7 50. Qb3 Bf8 51. Qa4 Bg7 52. Qb3 Bf8 53. Qa4 Bg7 54. Qb3 Bf8 55. Qa4 Bg7 56. Qb3 Bf8 57. Qa4 Bg7 58. Qb3 Bf8 59. Qa4 Bg7 60. Qb3 Bf8 61. Qa4 Bg7 62. Qb3 Bf8 63. Qa4 Bg7 64. Qb3 Bf8 65. Qa4 Bg7 66. Qb3 Bf8 67. Qa4 Bg7 68. Qb3 Bf8 69. Qa4 Bg7 70. Qb3 Bf8 71. Qa4 Bg7 72. Qb3 Bf8 73. Qa4 Bg7 74. Qb3 Bf8 75. Qa4 Bg7 76. Qb3 Bf8 77. Qa4 Bg7 78. Qb3 Bf8 79. Qa4 Bg7 80. Qb3 Bf8 81. Qa4 Bg7 82. Qb3 Bf8 83. Qa4 Bg7 84. Qb3 Bf8 85. 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BUSINESS NEWS

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Industrialists will tell Government pay policy must be backed by Whitehall monitoring

Malcolm Brown, industrial leader, said that the Government must take action to control its expenditure, its borrowing requirement and the money supply.

Although not in agreement with all the proposals, industry would "do all in its power to make it as effective as possible". But the monitoring provisions did not go nearly far enough.

"We warned ministers that compulsory reporting to Government of pay claims, as well as settlements and intended settlements, was essential if the policy was to be fully observed," the statement said.

"This becomes all the more important since Government has decided, against our strong advice, not to seek legal powers to enforce its pay policy, unless it covers the pay limit is endangered."

CBI officials expressed regret that the Government had not seen fit to adopt a percentage pay limit. They fear that the burden on some pay industries may be too heavy, especially in the case of the insurance industry, where there is concern at the effect which a flat rate system will have on differentials.

But privately several industrial leaders feel that the difficulties involved will be worth

while if the TUC can carry through the 66 limit scheme without hitches.

One provision of the White Paper which is bound to raise angry voices when the CBI's annual council meets to review the package on Wednesday is the cut-off point of £8,500, above which there will be no increases.

It is thought that this could tip the balance with many middle management in industry, already frustrated by what they consider low levels of remuneration in comparison with their European counterparts.

The decision to set a cut-off point at £8,500 was described as "vindictive" by the Institute of Directors, which represents 44,000 of industry's top executives.

Mr. Jan Hildreth, the institute's director-general, said that a flat percentage increase of less than 10 per cent would have been less inflationary and more equitable.

"To single out this small group, making up less than 1 per cent of the working population, is misguided for it contains business leadership which is critical to the recovery of the nation's economy."

The Association of British Chambers of Commerce said



Mr Campbell Adamson, director general of the CBI, who wants the Government to monitor pay settlements.

Stock markets down steeply on impact of White Paper measures

Gilt-edged stocks and equities responded unfavourably to the Government's White Paper, although the gilt market's performance was complicated by expectations—finally confirmed after dealings had closed—that a new long "tap" stock would be announced to replace the expired Treasury 12½ per cent 1995 issue.

The new "tap" is to be of £750m—larger than the previous £500m issue—with a coupon of 13½ per cent, a maturity of 1997 and an issue price of £94½ per cent.

On the foreign exchange markets sterling dropped sharply but recovered to rise slightly higher, with a net rise of 5 points to £2.2005.

Earlier in the day gilt prices, both "shorts" and "longs", had risen slightly by around 1 point from overnight levels.

However, as details of the White Paper became public, selling developed and gathered pace until the close.

The absence of the expected new "tap" stock at that stage helped the market to a strong recovery after hours.

Shorts ended the day about 1 point off on the day, while the losses in "longs" were cut back to 1 or 2 points.

It was thought in the market that the fall in prices had prompted the postponement of the new "tap", but that when the market began to recover it was decided to go ahead after all.

The new stock is expected to have a dampening effect on prices when dealings begin on Monday.

In the equity market, Mr Wilson's speech was greeted with a brief upturn in share prices, as bears came in to buy

All jobs to count in £8,500 freeze level

By Desmond Quigley

A wage freeze is decreed in the White Paper for those earnings in excess of £8,500 a year—a figure which is a compromise between original TUC and government suggestions.

The White Paper is somewhat vague on salary limits. The TUC proposals, as amended by the Government, state that those over the cut-off limit "should forgo any increase in their incomes in the present period of difficulties".

However, Whitehall sources were anxious last night to state over the cut-off limit "should forgo any increase in their incomes in the present period of difficulties".

This will also cover people with a long string of relatively low pay rises. Directors' fees are considered part of assessable income and therefore the "cut-off" limit will operate in the same way.

It appears that there are no particularly reliable government figures for the number of people earning in excess of £8,500 a year. The Department of Employment yesterday estimated that 120,000 people were above the cut-off point based on average weekly earnings.

Prize benefits are not defined in the White Paper, but as far as the higher income earners are concerned it would again come back to what is assessable.

However, the document does recognize the vast scope at all levels for evasion of the spirit of the proposals by the use of non-assessable fringe benefits by stating: "Negotiations will be expected to offset any improvement in non-wage benefits against the pay figure."

Incremental wage increases also fall under the scope of the White Paper. Employers could be given statutory relief from making any contractual obligations in this field.

Government sources, however, provided a loop-hole by saying that incremental increases can be paid provided the total of such rises does not exceed the 10 per cent limit. This is on top of the maximum 66 a head general rise.

Again there appear to be no reliable government figures for those covered by incremental scales.

The Government's proposals are "voluntary", but will be backed up by the Price Code. However, two important areas, the banks and the insurance industry, are not covered by the Code.

Does this mean that high paid bank executives and their staff can ignore the cut-off point and the 66 a head maximum?

Well, said Whitehall, the Price Code might be revised to include these two sectors and the Government could use other weapons as a measure of disapproval, such as cutting further special deposits from the bank.

FOREIGN REACTION

Bankers doubt ability to reach target

From Peter Norman Bonn, July 11

Bankers in Düsseldorf, Frankfurt and Zurich were generally sceptical that the wage control package will achieve its goal of bringing the inflation rate down to 10 per cent by this time next year.

While the bank economists and foreign exchange dealers welcome the Government's plan as a worthwhile step in the right direction they remained doubtful on how it could be enforced.

The small majority by which the TUC General Council accepted the £6 a week pay figure clearly unsettled opinion in German and Swiss financial centres. Bankers were today reacting to Mr Wilson's statement that the Government had a very slim majority which could impair the political will needed.

The prospects for the pound seem fairly grim, if the European bankers' views are shared elsewhere.

The popular argument is that even if effective, Mr Wilson's anti-inflationary measures will take time to work. In the intervening period the gap between inflation in Britain and elsewhere in the world, not to mention Britain's economic, social and structural problems,

PRICE CODE

10pc ceiling proposed for some goods

Successful operation of the £6 pay limit plan will be followed by further changes to the Price Code which will enable the Government to limit price rises of a certain range of goods, food and non-food, to around 10 per cent in a 12-month period.

While a total freeze of prices is attractive to the Chancellor, he is aware of the effects of this on the retail industry. The alternative that will be discussed in the Department of Prices and Consumer Protection, the CBI and the Retail Consortium will be to impose limits on certain items which make up the family shopping basket.

If this limitation programme cannot be agreed, Mr Healey said yesterday, the alternative might be to extend the period obligatory between price rises from its present three months to, possibly, six months or a year.

The immediate change which will be made to the Price Code will be the amendment which will require employers to give full details of any pay settlement they have made and which they are claiming as an allowable cost increase.

The Government will certify to the Price Commission whether any of these wage deals breaks the pay limits. Where an employer breaks the limits the whole pay increase, not just the part above the limits, will not be considered an allowable cost.

The Government will also legislate to extend the Price Code beyond March 31, 1976, when it was due to end. Changes to the code are widely expected before then, but yesterday the Government said that it did not intend to push price control to the point where it would endanger employment and investment.

The code will also be changed to include again all the self-employed to ensure that their charges and fees rise with Price Commission approval.

There are a number of self-employed who are paid in part from public funds, including cleaners, opticians and postmen. They will continue to operate outside the code, but the Government will take into account the pay limits when dealing with payments to them.

Changes will also be made to accommodate the question of progress towards equal pay which is due to be in effect by the end of this year.

However, one area which has yet to be ruled on by the Government is whether the code will be extended to take in banks and insurance

PUBLIC SPENDING

34 pc growth last year outpaced inflation

By Tim Congdon

Growth of public expenditure is widely considered to have been the Achilles heel of the present Government's economic policy. Central government expenditure in money terms rose 34.2 per cent higher in the 1974/75 financial year than in the 1973/74 financial year, a rate of increase significantly in excess of the rate of inflation between the two periods.

Rapid growth appears to have continued in the first quarter of the current financial year. Central government expenditure was 45 per cent up on the first quarter of the 1974/75 financial year—again much ahead of price inflation and the rate of pay increases found in the economy generally.

These huge increases have however not been primarily attributable to additional real spending. According to the Financial Statement and Budget Report 1975/76, the volume of direct public expenditure increased by less than 2 per cent between 1973 and 1974. The trouble arose from higher pay and prices and from increases in subsidies above the amounts originally contemplated by the Government.

Direct public expenditure, which is earmarked for the behaviour of spending in real and money terms has been blamed on inadequate methods of control employed by the Treasury.

The practice of controlling expenditure in real terms has been singled out for criticism,

ECONOMY

Limit on pay could reduce demand by about £300m

By Melvyn Westlake

Total demand within the economy could be reduced by about £300m as a result of limiting all pay increases in the 1975/76 financial year to 10 per cent, according to a report by the Institute of Economics and Statistics.

Mr Denis Healey admitted yesterday.

But the Chancellor stressed that this would be the case only if the anti-inflation programme was taken in isolation. He expected that the personal sector would run down the high level of its savings to maintain living standards. This would help to sustain demand in the economy and thus industrial output and jobs.

He was hopeful that a reduction in inflation would lead to a higher level of capital investment and exports than would otherwise have been the case. This would also help to maintain jobs, partly substituting external demand for internal demand.

The £300m figure appears to be a rough calculation of the effect on purchasing power of the greater rate at which prices will exceed the stipulated rate of pay rises.

On average, earnings of £200 a year, or 10 per cent of the total, would be reduced from the present level of about 25 per cent to 10 per cent by September 1976, the average rate over the coming year is likely to be 17 or 18 per cent.

It is clear from recent official government figures that general living standards are already being hit by rising prices. In the first three months of this year there was a fall of 1 to 1½ per cent in real net disposable income—the best measure of living standards.

Savings have been reduced from the historically high levels prevailing at the end of last year, but hitherto the available evidence has suggested that the personal sector was actually saving more than usual, presumably out of concern about employment prospects.

MONEY SUPPLY

Guidelines for maintaining firm control on expansion

By Christopher Wilkins

Apart from establishing general guidelines about keeping the growth of money supply "under firm control", the White Paper remains unspecific about money supply projections, merely noting that "it will be important to ensure that in the period ahead the price targets which the Government has set are not undermined by too loose a control over the expansion of bank credit". In addition, through the Bank of England's guidance, priority in lending is to be given to essential sectors of the economy.

The White Paper adds that the Government has substantially reduced the growth of the money supply in the past year and a half. Over the latest 15 months up until mid-June M3, the wider version of the money supply, has grown by about 11 per cent compared to 37 per cent in the previous 15 months. More recently there would appear to have been a further contraction in the rate of

NATIONALIZED INDUSTRIES

Investment schemes in jeopardy and higher charges loom

By Maurice Corina

Further increases in gas, electricity, and railway charges this autumn seem unavoidable as a result of the Government's decision to place tight financial constraints on the nationalized industries. The Treasury is sticking firmly to a target of £100m of deficit subsidies for state enterprises in 1975-76, of which £70m is earmarked for the distressed Post Office, which has already announced plans for big price rises from September.

Borrowings are to be severely monitored and cash and wage costs are to be applied to enterprises which get off course cannot expect Whitehall to guarantee their deficits, which means they will have to make economies to help their revenue accounts. With strict controls on borrowing, there will be a fight to maintain capital

to eventually ending deficit financing by the Exchequer.

With the Post Office setting £70m (now forced to cover its £300m forecast loss by new price rises and service cuts), the remaining £30m of the £100m ceiling to subsidies will probably go to the electricity supply industry. Consumers expect a further increase in April and a small rise this month, some further increase under the fuel adjustment clause on their bills this autumn. Any sudden revision of the forecast loss of £30m will have to be met by more price increases, though the industry is hoping to avoid this.

More certain is a rise of around 20 per cent in the tariffs of the British Gas Corporation. Railway fares are expected to go up in September, and the British Railways Board is to have a ceiling on its passenger

grants and general expenditure. Higher freight charges seem certain because of a large deficit on its operations which the Government is not prepared to guarantee.

State industry borrowing requirements are to be rigorously monitored because of great uncertainties about the British Steel Corporation, which is now suffering greatly from falling demand but has a huge investment programme to sustain.

The Government will be seeking to protect investment programmes as best as they can, but some cuts seem inevitable given the general inflation in the cost of materials and equipment. Whitehall expects the State undertakings to take a more rigorous look at their manpower requirements and to search out all possible economies to raise productivity.

Chairmen of the state industries and their unions, representing 2 million workers, are to begin talks on the operation of cash ceilings on wage bills. In some cases, there will be some tricky problems flowing from possible overtime restrictions, disrupted incremental payments, incentives, and suspended arbitration procedures.

Finance members of some boards still want some answers from the Government about actuarial deficits in pension funds, presently covered from revenue accounts while arguments with Whitehall over Exchequer payments drag on. One worry for the Treasury on the nationalized industries contribution to borrowing requirements is the news that the British Steel Corporation has to deal with a £37.5m loss in its current financial year, but cannot raise prices given its market position.

RETAILING

Relief at escape from prices freeze

By David Young

The relative escape of the retail industry from the effects of the Chancellor's anti-inflation package, apart from the obvious threat of being faced now with claims for £5 a week rises from its workers, is a reflection of the serious situation prevailing among the shopkeepers.

Mr Healey yesterday made it clear he would have liked to have been in a position to bring in a complete freeze on prices, but was aware that this was simply not possible after three years of strict price controls. The effect would have been totally to kill off any prospect of investment in retailing at a time when its investment programme was at a low ebb.

The Retail Consortium has been involved in the talks between the Government and

the two sides of industry and has been remarkably successful in putting forward its case, although on the face of it, all that has been done is to maintain the Price Code. Nevertheless it is a significant victory for the consortium, which had feared further interference and possibly a return to cash margin restraint rather than percentage margin controls.

The industry's claim that it has suffered most because of the continued price controls is a reasonable one. Announcements by major groups that their investment programmes have either been cut back or are under review are now a regular event and even the most efficient operators, such as Sainsbury's, are only maintaining their investment programmes by substantially increasing their borrowing.

Mr Healey's latest announce-

EMPLOYMENT SUBSIDIES

Cash for companies which keep on surplus workers

By Our Industrial Editor

Employers in regions of high unemployment are to be paid temporary cash subsidies to keep surplus workers on their payrolls pending improvements in their order books.

Some may get the payments for delaying redundancies while employment services find alternative work or arrange retraining for jobs elsewhere.

Mr Michael Foot, Secretary of State for Employment, is to announce details of the scheme shortly. The size and form of payments has yet to be agreed, but legislative authority — by appropriate changes to the Employment and Training Act in association with the Employment Protection Bill—is to be sought on the broad principle of a new jobs subsidy.

It is understood that the Manpower Services Commission and the Department of Employment are well advanced in preparation of appropriate criteria for making claims. The Trades Union Congress and the Confederation of British Industry are being consulted on the plan.

The main problem has been over the definition of criteria for making payments in a way that does not encourage over-manning, or supporting companies incapable of standing on their own feet in normal times.

Money is to go to companies which can justify cash support with sufficient evidence that they expect an upturn in their business. A company which needs a little more time to redeploy workers in a more productive way is expected to qualify.

How the markets moved

Rises			
Aust & NZ	5p to 385p	Dalton	2p to 20p
Am Sun	5p to 44p	Energy Serv	3p to 44p
Bank of Ind	5p to 165p	Glass & Metal	8p to 56p
Bank of Ind	8p to 122p	Lloyds Bank	8p to 56p
Concentric	21p to 21p	Rio Tinto Zinc	1p to 192p
Chalmers	3p to 52p	Vanessa	6p to 50p
Cutter Guard	1p to 144p	Whitworth W	1p to 17p
Falls			
Barclays Bk	5p to 258p	Visons	8p to 365p
Boole	13p to 192p	GKN	6p to 56p
Brit Am Tob	10p to 310p	Imp Chem Ind	8p to 56p
Brit Home Sts	22p to 284p	Metal Box	12p to 230p
Carroll	10p to 52p	Shell	10p to 306p
Carroll	6p to 118p	Sun Alliance	10p to 400p
Carroll	10p to 175p	Unilever	14p to 97p
Equities fell back sharply.			
Gilt-edged securities replaced early gains with heavy falls.			
Sterling closed at \$2.2005, five points. The effective devaluation rate was 25.5 per cent. Gold rose by \$1.50 to \$165.50 an oz.			
THE POUND			
Bank	Bank	Bank	Bank
Australia \$	1.71	1.66	1.66
Austria Sch	35.75	36.75	36.75
Belgium Fr	42.50	42.50	42.50
Canada \$	2.315	2.265	2.265
Denmark Kr	12.60	12.20	12.20
Finland Mkk	8.15	7.90	7.90
France Fr	6.55	6.55	6.55
Germany DM	5.45	5.25	5.25
Greece Dr	67.75	65.50	65.50
Hong Kong \$	11.10	10.75	10.75
Italy Lr	1455.00	1410.00	1410.00
Japan Yn	675.00	650.00	650.00
Netherlands Gld	5.65	5.45	5.45
Norway Kr	11.40	11.05	11.05
Portugal Esc	55.00	53.00	53.00
S Africa Rd	1.88	1.80	1.80
Spain Pes	127.00	122.00	122.00
Sweden Kr	9.80	9.60	9.60
Switzerland Fr	2.255	2.205	2.205
US \$	57.50	55.75	55.75
Yugoslavia Dnr	37.50	35.75	35.75
Commodities: Cocoa futures finished up to 64s a tonne higher. Renters' commodity index closed at 1,123.3 (1,108.6 on Thursday).			
Reports, pages 17 and 18			

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Bank Base Rates Table 17

Commons report criticizes careless Whitehall spending

By Peter Hill and Roger Violette

Whitehall's management of large sums of taxpayer's money, being channelled into sectors of British industry from bread subsidies to atomic energy, was criticized yesterday by the Commons Public Accounts Committee, the Government's watchdog on public spending.

In its report, two government departments, the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food and the Department of Prices and Consumer Affairs are taken to task for failing to make a detailed examination of the books and record of bakery companies receiving £78.4m in subsidies, which were aimed at avoiding price increases in some types of loaves last March.

After investigating the circumstances under which the subsidy was calculated, the committee said it was surprised that public expenditure of nearly £80m a year "should rest so largely on information which had not been subjected to independent verification by the Ministry before the event, and only partial verification afterwards."

In detailed negotiations, the bakers provided details of the extra income they expected from the proposed increases on the varieties of loaf to be subsidized and from the quantities of flour used in the production of this bread.

This was broadly in line with available independent data and detailed examination of books and records was not considered necessary.

The committee accepted that the scheme had to be introduced in haste but said that as a general principle, information on which large payments of public funds depended should always be checked.

Between £35m and £40m of value-added tax revenue had been lost because of insufficient staff to check on traders liable for payment.

According to the committee's report, "the substantial amounts of tax must have been lost through under-declarations of tax, whether deliberate or unintentional."

The Customs and Excise department estimated that there would be a loss of up to £40m in the financial year of up to £40m as a result of undetected under-declarations of the tax, unidentified under-assessments and insolvencies.

"We are deeply concerned

that substantial losses of tax are being incurred and recommended that the department should proceed as a matter of urgency to implement their proposed improvements in the administration of the tax, so that full enforcement procedures are effective much sooner than they appear to be at the present," the committee said.

The committee also expressed concern at the operation of selective financial assistance to companies under the terms of the Industrial Act, which aims to make more particular inquiries into specific cases next year.

It indicated that it would want to keep under review the control arrangements for administering various forms of government financial assistance under the amended Act. The committee's findings are based on questioning of Department of Industry officials, including Mr Peter Lloyd, top adviser on industrial policy.

Between March last year and the end of February this year, the department received 60 "rescue" applications for financial assistance under sections 7 and 8 of the Act. Offers made involved a total of £74.45m but 29 applications were still under consideration when the committee completed its investigation.

The report underlined its continuing interest in the administration of the Industrial Act, particularly to cases earlier this year, when recommendations made by the independent Industrial Development Advisory Board on particular applications were overruled by Ministers, most notably by Mr Wedgwood Benn when he was Secretary of State for Industry.

There is clearly disquiet at changes in the criteria applied to applications for assistance. Officials told the committee that the viability of a particular project was no longer regarded as an essential consideration.

Financial assistance to the state-owned Govan Shipbuilders, the successor company to the ill-fated Upper Clyde Shipbuilders, and to Cammell Laird Shipbuilders (in which the Government has a 50 per cent interest) came under particular scrutiny.

Dealing with Govan, the report refers to the Government commitment of about £35m to support the company over the

five year period from its establishment in 1972.

Critical assumptions on productivity improvements and the level of losses on its order book had since been rendered false, and the Department of Industry calculated that instead between £50m and £60m would be needed.

The Department's handling of the assistance being made available to Cammell Laird received sharp criticism.

Noting that the original total aid package of £25m covering capital reconstruction, working capital and provision for losses was likely to be greatly increased—largely because of the rise in capital works costs from £14m to a likely £32m—the committee spares neither the company nor the Department.

The Department relied on the company to ensure that the cost of the scheme was reasonable. Your committee deplores the lack of effective financial control over the public funds involved, and recommends that the total liability to public funds should be reviewed as soon as possible so that Parliament may be fully informed of the nature and extent of the Government's commitment," the report said.

A one-year delay in completing Britain's first prototype fast nuclear reactor at Dounreay in Scotland should be subject to an inquiry by the Atomic Energy Authority (AEA), the Treasury and the Department of Energy, the committee states. Awaiting delays in completing projects of this nature "is of crucial importance to the national economy". The inquiry should make a detailed analysis of the causes and cost of the delay.

It was surprised to find that the arrangement for reimbursing The Nuclear Power Group (TNP), the consortium responsible for the project management, for expenses estimated at nearly £4m should be on a cost plus basis, with no financial incentive to ensure efficient management of the construction.

Reimbursement of expenses continued on this basis even when the company received additional management support from the AEA in areas where it was not as fast as expected.

*Third Report of the Committee of Public Accounts, House of Commons Paper 374, HMSO, Price £5.05.

Coats wins contested vote to pass dividend

From Margaret Drummond Glasgow, July 11

Coats Patons, the textile group that took a controversial decision to pass its final dividend, today received majority approval at its annual meeting in Glasgow amid pleas from leading financial institutions that the company strengthen its communication with shareholders in the future.

Around 200 people attended the meeting, including representatives from the various institutions, the Church Commissioners, the Post Office pension fund and the British Rail pension fund.

Despite the serious criticisms voiced by institutions over the decision to cut the dividend for the year, culminating in recommendations by the Investment Protection Committee of the Pension Funds and the Unit Trust Managers to vote against adoption of the group accounts, the two-and-a-half hour meeting passed off peaceably enough with the resolution to make a scrip issue, passed by a majority of 17.8 million votes to 4.6 million in a poll that the board evidently saw as a gratifying vote of confidence.

But Mr David Hopkinson, investment manager for the M and G financial group and chairman of the investment protection committee, spoke in strong terms against the decision to cut the dividend for the year, culminating in the dropping of the final dividend.

He termed it "cosmetic financing", sentiments that were echoed by Mr McDonald, investment secretary for the Church Commissioners, who pointed out that many group accounts, such as his had bought Coats shares for steady income and were statutorily debarred from selling the scrip for cash.

Mr Hopkinson queried the precedent set by the company's arrangements to help small shareholders sell their scrip and the waste of management time and money the whole situation had caused. The strongest institutional objections appeared to centre on the fact that the group had not consulted its shareholders about the sudden decision and both Mr McDonald and Mr Hopkinson called for the appointment of non-executive directors to the Coats board ahead of the expected legislation. They suggested closer relations between it and the shareholders to prevent such an unhappy situation arising again.

Mr Charles Bell, the retiring chairman, said the group had received overwhelming support from private shareholders.

Despite the strong institutional opposition it appears that few of the investing bodies actually voted against the resolutions.

Citibank's prime rate goes to 7½pc

From Frank Vogl US Economics Correspondent Washington, July 11

The First National City Bank of New York stuck firmly to its special money formula today and increased its prime lending rate to 7½ per cent from 7 per cent.

The bank raised its key rate from 6½ per cent last week, most major United States banks are still holding to a 7 per cent level.

A good number of banks may well join the Citibank at 7½ per cent, but Citibank's senior executives at some banks commented today that with loan demand still very sluggish and with some easing evident in money market rates, they will probably remain at 7 per cent for a few more weeks.

But further increases in the prime rate over the next few months seem certain due to a probable increase in loan demand, liquidity tightening in the markets through heavy United States Treasury borrowing and the likelihood that the Federal Reserve Board will make little effort to hold rates down, they added.

The Fed still appears to be deeply concerned about the money supply expansion rate and money market dealers believe the Fed will continue to hold the federal funds rate around the 5 to 6½ range until the rate of money supply growth has been slowed.

This range, however, is still somewhat lower than the range the Fed appeared to desire in the last few weeks of June.

New Fed data shows that the money supply (currency plus demand deposits) fell by the largest amount, totalling \$1,500m since mid-March in the week to July 2. The annual rate of money supply expansion in the quarter to July was 6.5 per cent, which compares with the Fed's declared target range of 5 to 7.5 per cent.

More tanker tonnage at scrapyards

By Our Industrial Correspondent

Over 100,000 tons of deadweight oil tanker tonnage was scrapped in the first six months of this year and since autumn last year, 24 million tons of orders for new tankers have been cancelled. Negotiations for the cancellation or postponement of a further 13 million tons are at present taking place.

The scrapping rate over the first half of the year was four times greater than the historical level and is an indication of the attempts now being made by the tanker industry—which is experiencing one of its sharpest downturns—to bring about a better balance between supply and demand.

These latest estimates of the tanker situation, prepared by R. P. Drewry (Shipping Consultants) coincide with another survey which confirms the hardening of oil tanker chartering rates.

The international weekly tanker index compiled by London shipbrokers, Mullion and Co, rose this week to Worldscale 85 from Worldscale 81 the previous week and Worldscale 75 two weeks ago. But the index level is still below the Worldscale rate of 90 in January.

According to the Drewry survey, however, although rates have improved with the high scrap rates and cancellations of contracts, there remains a huge surplus to be absorbed before a "genuine recovery" occurs.

There is now close on 33 million tons of tanker tonnage lying idle and 17 per cent of this total is accounted for by new tankers which have been delivered since the start of this year.

Milan move for Sindona funds

Milan, July 11.—Signor Guido Viola, the deputy State Attorney here, today demanded from the civil tribunal the liquidation of 12 foreign holdings based in Switzerland, Luxembourg, Panama, the Bahamas and Liberia which formed part of the financial empire of Signor Michele Sindona.

The move was aimed at retrieving through the liquidation of Signor Sindona's foreign holdings about £3,000m (the value of the assets) from the Italian bank, had transferred to these companies for subscribing to a capital increase of the main holding group.

Experts believe this will be an extremely hard task for Signor Viola. Banca Privata was put into liquidation last October. —AP-Dow Jones.

PERSONAL INVESTMENT AND FINANCE

Insurance

When pets can be pests...

We are a nation of pet-lovers. But, on occasions, pets can be the cause of a good deal of trouble and expense. If, for instance, you know that your dog particularly likes to get the better of postmen, and you fail to keep it out of reach of yours, you will have to pay for a new pair of trousers.

Or your dog could rush out into the road and cause a serious accident. In this event, you might be faced with heavy claims for personal injury and damage to cars.

In most cases, you should be covered for claims for which you are legally liable under your household policy or, more likely, by a personal liability extension to that policy. Make sure that you have this extra cover; many household policies give it as a matter of course. If your policy does not include cover for your liability to others in a personal capacity, ask for it to be added: it is cheap enough.

If a dog of yours causes damage by killing or injuring livestock, you will be liable for the damage. Incidentally, this does not simply apply to sheep but extends to poultry—and even pheasants or partridges which are being reared by hand.

The fact that you may have taken all reasonable care will not absolve you from liability if your dog kills or injures livestock. There are, however, two exceptions. The first applies if the damage takes place on your land or on the land of somebody else who has authorized the dog's presence and the livestock which suffers has strayed on to the land. There is, of course, no exemption if a farmer says you can take your dog on to his land and it then kills some of his livestock which had a perfect right to be there.

The second exception applies where the damage to the livestock is due to the fault of the person to whom the livestock belongs. That may not always be easy to prove.

Remember that, although you may be insured, an insurer will pay out only when it is quite clear that you were legally liable. An insurer, therefore, may resist in your name, a claim which is made against you. Unless the other side can show that you have a legal liability, no compensation will be forthcoming from your insurers.

If, for instance, he or she has been good to you in different ways over the years.

If a farmer should shoot your dog, it does not necessarily follow that you can claim compensation from him. You will have to show that the farmer believed, and had reasonable grounds for believing, either that your dog was worrying or was about to worry his livestock and there was no other means of preventing the worrying; or that the dog had been worrying the livestock, had not left the vicinity, was not under anybody's control and there were no practicable means of telling to whom it belonged.

To be in the clear, a farmer shooting a dog in such circumstances must report it within 24 hours to the police. A farmer or anybody else, however, does not have that "right" to shoot a dog worrying livestock if the shooting occurs on land to which the livestock had strayed—if the land is occupied by yourself or somebody else who had authorized the dog's presence.

Horses and ponies, also, can cause damage—particularly by straying on to the road. It is a curious position whereby if your child's pony strayed from its field into somebody else's garden, and ate a few cabbages, you were liable for the value of the cabbages. But if the pony strayed on to the highway, their owners are not to be regarded as having committed a breach of duty if the land from which they stray is

the main road and caused a serious accident, no liability attached to you.

That has been changed by the Animals Act, 1971. Now, if a horse, pony, cow, etc., strays on to the road, the normal rules of negligence apply, with each case depending on its own individual facts.

It was felt that it would be unfair to impose absolute liability on the owners of livestock. Instead, therefore, the making owners liable in all circumstances if animals stray on to the road, they are liable only if they do not take reasonable care to prevent straying. This is important to take reasonable care to inspect fences and when necessary to mend them promptly.

Incidentally, one can expect the adequacy or otherwise of fencing to be considered in relation to the type of road which it adjoins. Thus a road with only sporadic traffic, probably not require the same expensive system of fencing as one which carries a heavy volume of traffic, often at high speed.

There have, however, been some concessions to the centuries-old privileges which have been enjoyed by farmers and other owners of domestic animals. For instance, if animals cause damage by straying from unfenced land on to the highway, their owners are not to be regarded as having committed a breach of duty if the land from which they stray is

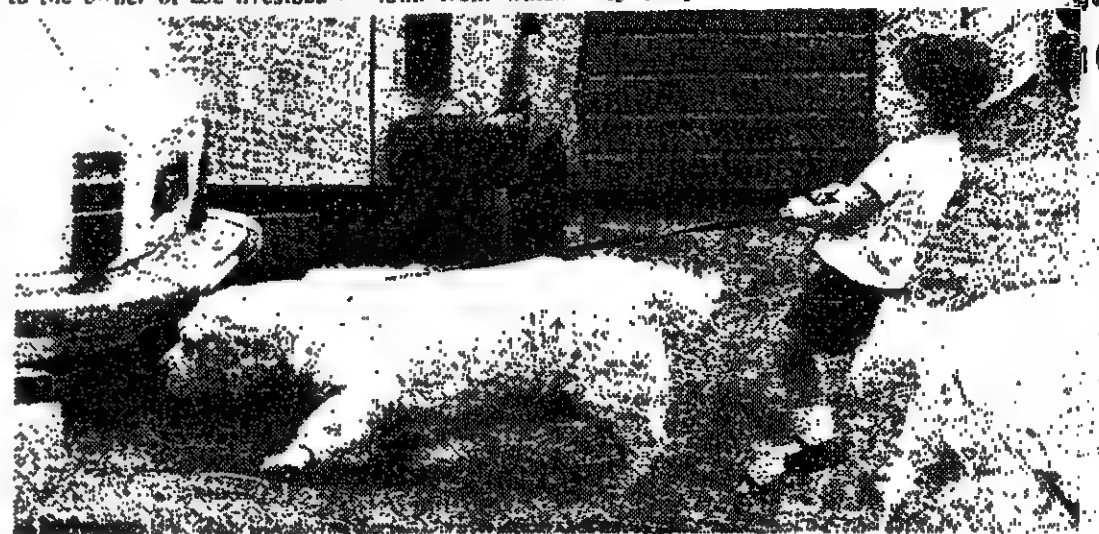
common land or is in an area where fencing is not customary, or is a town or village green. Naturally, to be able to take advantage of that exception, one must have had a right to put one's animals on that land in the first place.

When you take a horse or pony on the road, you have a duty to take "reasonable care". Here, of course, everything hangs on individual circumstances—such as whether the road on which you are riding is in the country or in a town, the horse or pony (and the extent to which it may be used to traffic), the experience of the person riding, the width of the road and so on.

To a great extent, then, potential liabilities connected with the ownership of horses or ponies may be covered by a personal liability policy. In an event, usually this kind of third-party liability can be covered by a comprehensive policy which insures the horse or pony against death or disablement and also cover saddles and other tack.

Here again, of course, as with any liability insurance, it is only one's legal liability which will be covered and an insurer may be prepared to contest your name a claim which made against you by a member of the public for personal injury or damage to his or her property.

John Drummond can't others



This dog's in good hands... but what if yours gets out of control?

Pensions

Women's rights pose problems

It has been one of Mrs Barbara Castle's main points in favour of the pensions structure to come into effect nationally in 1977 or 1978 that it represents a fair deal for women after a long period in which they have been treated unfairly. The whole problem of what is equitable in relation to the sexes is one which has always been clouded by emotional arguments and irrational generalisations.

Mrs Castle's Bill provides equal benefits for men and women in exchange for equal contributions and it also incorporates a clause which will give men and women equal access to occupational pension schemes. Also, the whole question of occupational pensions has been referred to the Occupational Pensions Board, a body set up by Sir Keith Joseph in 1973 to supervise occupational pensions and to advise the Government on questions concerning occupational pension schemes.

At the end of June the board had collected evidence from a wide variety of interested organizations and individuals on which they will be able to have a report to the Secretary of State for the Social Services. This report is expected within the next two months.

The form of the questionnaire sent out by the board inviting people to submit views indicates that they are well aware of the difficulty of the problem. It is not surprising, therefore, that the responses from varying backgrounds but all with practical experience of, or interest in, pensions.

The basic problem for anybody seeking to achieve equity in this area is the inconsistency between equality of pensions and equality of cost. Women retire five years before men in this country and there is very little prospect of this being changed in the near future.

It would be unthinkable politically for any government to increase the age at which women retire; it is equally unthinkable economically to undertake the additional cost involved in raising the retirement age for men. Perhaps one day it may be possible, but certainly not now.

Women also live longer than men on average, and even if the two sexes retired at the same age the cost of providing a pension for a woman would therefore be greater than the cost of providing a pension for a man. If to this is added the fact that the woman's pension starts five years earlier and also that—in the case of the scheme where contributions are saved up in a fund earning interest to provide for the future pension rights of the members—the contributions earn five years more interest as well as being payable for five years more, all this means that the ultimate cost of providing a woman's pension is substantially higher than for a man's.

It is sometimes overlooked that any compulsion to provide women with equal pensions to

men's must involve employers in greater total spending on women employees than on men. This may very well operate against the employment prospects of women.

The considerations in a national scheme are somewhat different. Here we are concerned with providing older members of the community with sufficient money to live on. This is a social obligation rather than a question of remuneration for work done.

There is therefore in this area nothing inappropriate in providing the same benefits for men as for women, and in allowing the difference in cost to average out. What is important is the amount of money which a person needs to live on rather than the cost of providing that pension. It would be ridiculous to suggest that a man needs more than a woman to live on in old age.

Equality in this sense is achieved by the Bill now passing through Parliament. It will come into force in 1977 or 1978. The submission to the Occupational Pensions Board, however, deals with occupational pension schemes and presents more serious problems.

The starting point in the board's considerations is the principle of equality of status for men and women in occupational pension schemes. The first question obviously is whether and to what extent there is discrimination between the sexes at present.

There is little doubt that the eligibility for pension schemes differs at present between men and women. It is not at all

uncommon for membership of pension schemes to be restricted to male employees. This practice has already been outlawed by the Social Security Pensions Bill passing through Parliament and is not one on which the Board are required to comment. After the Bill becomes an Act it will not be lawful for an employer to establish a scheme for men only of the same sort of problem as the one now before the Board.

This touches, however, on an important point of principle with which the Occupational Pensions Board are concerned—not only in relation to membership but in a number of different areas. There will be many schemes whose membership will be largely confined to men not because women are explicitly excluded but because the class of employees for which the scheme is established is one which contains a larger number of men than women.

A similar question affects not only admission to pension schemes but also the level of benefits and other conditions of such schemes and indeed equal pay in general: is it evidence of discrimination against women that a smaller number of women than men enjoy particular benefits or a particular level of benefits?

More men than women may be members of occupational pension schemes, for example, because of the normal employment pattern of women. They often work for a few years at a time and then frequently give up work while they are bringing up their children to return

again once the children are grown up or at school. The exclusion of age 21 or less than two or three years service will affect more women than men. It cannot, however, be said that it represents discrimination against women.

Any question of the preservation of rights for people who leave service is another example of the same sort of problem. Under the 1973 legislation a scheme is required to give rights to any person leaving service after at least five years' service provided that he has then reached the age of 25.

It seems likely from general appearance that more men than women satisfy these conditions. Does that in itself represent discrimination against women? It merely reflects the undeniable fact that women tend to leave after their first spell of service at a relatively young age and also that the younger women frequently feel disposed to change her employment at fairly short intervals.

If the general principle is that a minimum period of service is required to qualify for preserved benefits there is no reason why favour of women in general to satisfy the qualifying criteria laid down should be considered to be discrimination against them.

The information requested by the Occupational Pensions Board indicates quite clearly that they are aware of this sort of problem—in addition to asking for evidence about differences of treatment between the sexes they also request reasons for differences.

Eric Brunel

Output dips below level of three-day week

By Mervyn Westlake

The recession in British industry has now reduced the level of its output below that seen even during the three-day week in 1974. Total industrial production showed a further sharp drop in May, and estimates of output in April have also been revised downwards. This means that for 10 months the level of production in the factories and workshops has been almost continuously in decline. Excluding the period of energy crisis in the winter of 1973-74, output is now at its lowest for almost three years.

According to Government figures published by the Central Statistical Office yesterday, industrial production fell 0.8 per cent in May, taking the official index down to 101.2 (1970 = 100).

But significantly, the index has averaged 102.2 a month in the March-May period compared with 103.7 in the first three months of 1974, when workers in many industries were active employed for only three days a week.

It is now clear that although the recession in Britain began rather later than in other major industrialized countries, the gap is rapidly being closed by the pace of decline now being witnessed at home. This suggests that the economic recovery in the rest of the industrialized world, on which Mr Healey is relying heavily to raise activity in Britain, may now be delayed beyond the end of the year.

Since the peak of the last boom, both overseas and at home, in the summer of 1973, industrial output in Britain has dropped by about 8.5 per cent—one of the largest cyclical declines in postwar economic history. In more recent months, production in the manufacturing sector, which is responsible for about three quarters of industrial output, has been falling disproportionately fast.

March and May, the volume of exports fell by some 2 per cent, but the economic recovery in the rest of the industrialized world, on which Mr Healey is relying heavily to raise activity in Britain, may now be delayed beyond the end of the year.

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On the contrary, between

INDUSTRIAL OUTPUT

The following are the index numbers of industrial production in April, seasonally adjusted, released by the Central Statistical Office yesterday (1970=100):

	All Industries	Mining Total
1972 Q1	98.2	98.8
Q2	102.7	101.1
Q3	102.9	102.3
Q4	105.8	105.4
1973 Q1	109.9	109.9
Q2	108.6	110.0
Q3	110.7	111.5
Q4	108.5	110.0
1974 Q1	103.7	106.0
Q2	108.0	109.6
Q3	108.7	110.3
Q4	105.3	108.1
1975 Q1	104.5	105.5
1974 June	108.8	110.6
July	109.3	110.8
August	109.1	111.2
September	107.7	109.0
October	106.7	107.1
November	106.2	107.3
December	102.9	103.8
1975 January	105.0	106.8
February	105.0	106.4
March	103.4	103.3
April	102.0	102.8
May	101.2	101.2

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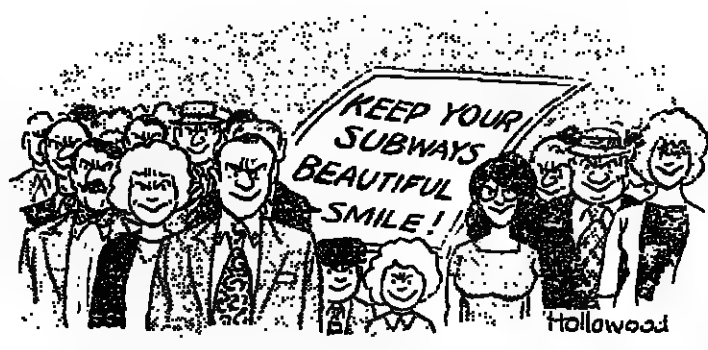
Going broke on a grin and a garden party

A few weeks ago a rash of sports appeared in the American media on the grotesque state our country had got itself into. There was a tendency towards the superficial instant journalism (just add vitriol and stir), technique, and although the main message was more or less right it was often polluted by lack of homework and irritating mistakes.

For example, one article announced dolefully that the City of London was bankrupt. This drew protest from a number of eminent sources in the square mile, who said that they must have meant the GLC. Yelps of anguish there were sent that from County Hall, up at the top of the tower, to be far off when the GLC will be in right trouble, even if. Ironically enough, in view of the sermonizing of these points, the way the head has been clearly shown none other than the City of New York—dead on cue about week after the said article came out, thus causing some argument over on this side of the Atlantic.

Big cities all over the place are continually being told, re suffering from the same financial problem. This is summarized as the withering way of the centre, as both businesses and richer individuals move out leaving shanties of poverty in their place.

Local taxes, be they rates or whatever, are insufficient to



the New York subways are plastered with posters...

Near to home, I can't see it being very good rush-hour advice on the Central Line between Bank and Notting Hill Gate either, where even the ghost of a smile could result in a thick ear or something even more personal.

London Transport have doubtless realized, unlike their New York counterparts, that people are people and they are not going to do what they don't want to do. Thus, as regards the latter situation, it was interesting to note that both cities were about as disgustingly strewn with rubbish as each other and neither of the advertising campaigns had evidently had the slightest effect.

So coming back to the financial position of the two cities, I forecast that nothing is going to have much effect there either, but that both of them will struggle and fail to raise the money they need by contrasting but characteristic methods.

New York has managed by promises, threats, cajoling and naked blackmail to get the banks to stump up some \$3,000m with the hint that they are going to need a bit more on top of that. This will go on for a bit, but eventually the bankers' patience will become overstrained, so by log-rolling, filibustering, boot-dogging and naked blackmail, the State of New York and the Federal Government itself

will be forced to fund the loans on an irredeemable basis. I can't see that happening in London, because by the time the problem is really upon us, nobody else is going to have any money anyway. So I envisage the GLC, with typical British resource in the face of danger, digging into our traditional past and triumphantly producing a solution in line with our latent abilities.

Getting back to the village concept, it will be decided that the GLC, like any rural community which needs to raise a bit of money, will hold a monster fete in the grounds of Buckingham Palace.

The whole problem—and much the better for it no doubt—will be thrown over to the women of the capital to solve. So, expect a cake stall showing off the baking prowess of the wives of the Cabinet ministers, rides in the Lord Mayor's coach, the raffling of a council house by the Mayor and a competition to guess the weight of the Post Office Tower. Come one, come all—a magnet for tourists and a treat for the kiddies.

London will still be as broke as ever by the end, but we will all have quite a jolly time of it. Just one problem—who's going to clear up the litter afterwards?

Francis Kinsman

Stock markets

Gilts close sharply lower

The Government White Paper was taken badly in the stock market, although it was generally admitted that it contained few surprises. The absence of cuts in public expenditure had not been expected, and the City was also disappointed that the Prime Minister again ruled out any prospect of a statutory wages policy at this stage.

The turnaround in gilts was particularly sharp, and a final rally reflected little more than the market's initial technical response to the new tap stock. Interest rates came some hours later than expected.

Equities saw some persistent selling, with lines of major stocks coming on the market. Selling was fairly general, although more shares were singled out for special attention. The trading account ended at 5.0 pm, and a depressing feature was the selling which developed in the new account.

The FT index closed 10.8 off at 313.6, a loss of 3.5 per cent on the day. The two week account still shows a net gain of about 6 per cent, but the overall gain was cut back severely yesterday.

Violent price movements in heavy and at times hectic trading were the main feature in the gilt market. The initial reaction to the Government's White Paper was unfavourable, partly because of disquiet at the extra subsidies on food and

maker Bowater Corporation fell 14 1/2p. A number of engineering shares, GKN (224p) lost 6p. Tube Investments lost 20p down at 230p after sellers had found the market unwilling to take more. Pilkington Bros, widely dependent upon prospects elsewhere in British industry, ended 9p down at 205p.

The absence of cuts in public expenditure did little to help the major building and construction issues. AP Cement dipped by 7p to 137p. International Timber continued to sell at a discount, with the trading statement. National Carboardising fell to 44p after the annual meeting had failed to sustain predictions of an upsurge in trading.

Second line features, almost

Dunford & Elliott is reported to be open to offers for its 5 per cent stake in Johnson & Firth Brown.

overlooked in the general upsurge, included J. W. Cameron, 8p up at 122p (after 125p) on the reported talks with Ellerman. Vantage put on 6p to 50p on the bid from Spiridon.

Bank shares were dull, although selling was very light on these pitches. The firm exception was Lloyds, which picked up 3p of their recent loss. Insurance issues were also a few pence off without any serious market interest. Mixed picture developed on the property section, where the absence of controls on business rents was largely overlooked.

Oils were easier, with BP down to 523p as London again turned apprehensive at the lack of support from the United States. Shell (306p) also weakened.

Interest in gold shares was very thin. Most share prices remained at or close to their overnight levels.

Equity turnover on Thursday was worth £3.1m (13,739 bargains). Active stocks yesterday, according to Exchange Telegraph were ICI, Metal Box new, Bowater new, Shell, Imps, Courtauld, Boots, Commercial Union, Unilever and GEC.

Latest dividends

All dividends in new pence or appropriate currencies	Ord. Div.	Year ago	Year ago	Year ago	Year ago
Compass (and par values)	0.55	0.55	15/8	—	1.5
Charter Trust (25p) Int	0.55	0.55	25/8	—	1.5
Debenham Corp (25p) Int	0.55	0.55	25/8	—	1.5
Debenham Corp (25p) Int	0.55	0.55	25/8	—	1.5
Hollas Group (5p) Fin	4.0	4.0	1/10	5.25	5.25
Leigh Mills (25p)	0.93	0.88	3/11	0.93	0.88
NEBO NV Int	2.06	2.06	21/7	—	5.06
Tramcar Corp (25p)	1.63	1.63	31/7	1.63	2.45
Warrs Group (10p) Int	0.48	0.48	—	—	1.0
Whitings (5p) Int	0.17	0.17	30/8	—	0.42

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax in pence per share. Elsewhere in this table are shown gross dividends on a gross basis. To establish gross, multiply the net dividend by 1.54, as Florida shares.

Hollas mauled, but not despondent

Contrary to the directors' expectations, the second half proved even worse than the first for the Hollas Group of textile companies in the months of March 31. From a turnover down from £10.5m to £9.7m pre-tax profits slumped from £854,000 to £323,000, with only £143,000 (against £544,000) coming in the final six months. Earnings fell from 10.25p to 3.66p a share.

The directors are to have their total dividend maintained at 5.25p and Mr A. Lawson, chairman, expects at least maintained profits this year. "Only the degree of improvement on that performance is uncertain," he adds.

The results were affected by outside influences, and having improved the financial base the chairman is "in no way despondent". He is sure there will be a recovery from the present economic recession.

The interdividend is 0.4p, against 0.35p, the first of three payments in an 18-month period.

Problems with the Voxson hi-fi equipment franchise have led Diamond Stylus, the maker of needles for record players, to delay its accounts until October 22.

Lane Fox unable to meet commitments

The shares of property developer Lane Fox were suspended yesterday at the board's request because of the company's "inability to meet its commitments".

After being quoted in a new form at 140p in the summer of 1973 the company's shares did particularly badly last year, and at one point reached a "low" of 10p. In November the company decided not to pay a dividend, and announced a dividend because of its liquid position and the economic outlook.

Big gain in revenue for Stock Conversion

The accounts of Stock Conversion and Investment Trust which sold its interest in the Piccadilly Circus development, as well as those in Tolmers Square and at 79-84 Tottenham Court Road now expects net revenue before tax this year to next March to reach £3.25m. In 1974-75 it was £2.4m and would have been less but for the disposal of the property.

Schroders called in for Newman

At the request of Prudential Assurance and other institutional shareholders in Newman Industries, J. Henry Schroder has been appointed by the board of Newman Industries to advise shareholders on the proposals relating to Thomas Poole & Gladstone China and Strongpoint. Schroders have been asked to consider the deals with the company and the proposed takeover of the company, and any other matters relating which they consider to be relevant and of substance.

Watsham's purchase

Electrical engineer Watsham's is paying £160,000 in shares for 10 per cent of Industrial Pharmaceutical Service, a leading supplier of pharmaceutical products and services for industry. For the year to May 31, 1974, pre-tax profits of IPS were £46,000 and a big rise is expected for the period to May 1975. The shares issued will be placed with institutions.

IBM sales depressed

With second-quarter net revenue down from \$482.5m to \$468.7m (£213m) Mr Frank Cary, chairman of IBM, says revenue continues to be hurt by inflation and "significant declines" in purchases of data-processing equipment.

Buying is better now than in the first quarter but the chairman says that it is still below the very high levels of a year ago.—APDJ.

Dublier recovers

Dublier, the electrical group, made a lot more in the six months to March 31. The interim results were the best since the new management took over in 1972. Pre-tax profits stood at £289,000, against £24,000. Orders are improving after a fall and the resistor business has been restructured.

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The Department of Trade has appointed two inspectors to investigate the affairs of Ashbourne Investments, and to look into the ownership of the company.

Taxation

If you can't pay up, then others must

The size of the capital transfer tax bill on a gift will depend, among other things, on who is paying the tax, or to be more accurate, on who is bearing the tax. If the donor bears the tax he value of the gift has to be reduced up to the amount of the tax. On the other hand, the donee is to shoulder the burden, the tax is calculated on the value of the gift without the complication of grossing up.

I make the distinction between "paying" and "bearing" the tax because the law has to make someone primarily responsible for settling the tax bill, no matter on whose shoulders it ultimately falls. The law makes for smoother and simpler tax collection. Not that the law restricts itself to neatness—it is too devious or that. What it does is to identify the person principally liable, and if that person defaults others are lined up to be unburdened with demand notes and threats.

The principle of it all is that, generally speaking, any person involved in the transaction is liable. But in the case of a lifetime gift, the donor is primarily responsible for paying the tax. If the donee has agreed personally to meet the liability it will be simple enough in practice for the two to come to some arrangement so that the donee is seen to bear the tax.

Incidentally, it is also the donor's responsibility to submit the CTT form to the appropriate tax office when a taxable gift is made, but more about that particular problem another time.

If the tax remains unpaid, the Inland Revenue can chase the recipient of the gift for it. In his case, if the gift had originally been grossed up because the donor was to bear the tax, here will be a recalculation so that the donee's liability is limited to tax on the net gift.

The Inland Revenue's powers of pursuit do not end there. If the donee in turn fails to pay, believe it or not, the donor's spouse can be sought for the tax. But the Inland Revenue can only collect tax from this source to the extent, if any, that the spouse has received gifts from her husband (or husband from his wife) after March 26, 1974.

There are some beneficiaries who think that it is a good idea to give everything away now, before the tax is paid, thereby leaving the tax collector with yet another bad debt on his hands. However, it follows from the rules I have just outlined that this is fallacious thinking—someone else will have to pay the tax.

Motor insurance

Double cover is not always double money

Insurance companies are quite happy for people to have more than two policies covering the same risk. Usually the full premium is payable for each—when it comes to making a claim, the claimant can claim the full amount twice. Instead, each policy will probably have to contribute to the total cost in some cases that can mean that two no-claim discounts are lost as a result of one accident. Fortunately, if there are two more policies covering your car—or providing weekly benefits if you should be disabled—a claim can be made on each, here is virtually no upper limit on which you may insure your car and there will be no scaling down when claims are made on a number of different policies. But when it comes to every day claims on motor policies, you will find, as I mentioned above, that two or more different policies may have to contribute to the cost.

For instance, if you have an extension to your household

policy, which covers personal effects and the like on "all risks" terms and some luggage is stolen from your car, it may seem as though the policy should meet the whole cost. But that overlooks the fact that, almost certainly, your comprehensive motor policy covers luggage stolen from the car—up to a modest sum.

It is quite likely, therefore, that the "all risks" insurers will call on the motor insurers to contribute to the claim. This means that a claim will be made on your motor policy whether you like it or not and, as a result, your no-claim discount will be forfeited or reduced at renewal.

If you do not have "all risks" cover on your personal possessions it will not be worth while in many cases (because of no-claim discount considerations) to claim for the loss of items from the car. Probably it will be better in the long run to meet the cost from your own resources.

On the other hand if you have "all risks" insurance in force it is obviously best for the whole of the claim to be met by this policy, rather than for the motor policy to contribute as well with a resultant loss of no-claim discount. One way of making sure of that is simply to arrange in advance with your insurers for the cover for items in the car to be deleted from your motor policy.

Some of the other extensions in a motor policy can be useful, but can have the same kind of drawback. Take, for instance, the extension under the third party section which gives you cover while driving other cars.

There could be a situation where, although you have your own car, you drive somebody else's—either to oblige in one way or another or because your own is temporarily out of action. The comprehensive policy for the car you are borrowing gives cover on the usual terms while somebody else, with

the owner's permission, is at the wheel.

Suppose you run into somebody's fence, causing serious damage to both the fence and the car you are borrowing. If you do not have a policy of your own the claim made by the owner of the fence and the cost of repairing the car would be met by the car's insurers, subject, of course, to any excess in the policy.

But, because you have your own policy, it may have to meet the claim for the repair of the fence, with the insurers of the car which you were driving paying only for the cost of the repairs to the car. Naturally, if a claim is paid under your own policy all or part of the discount will be forfeited at renewal.

The owner of the car, also, will suffer a loss of no-claim discount, because his policy will be meeting the cost of the repairs to the car. Thus one accident can result in claims on

Investor's week

Market disappointment • Retailers • Cement

First reactions from the market to Mr Wilson's speech suggested that the City had been on the wrong tack for the previous four sessions. Gilt yields which had been moving up strongly, fell back fairly dramatically as the market's hopes of immediate cuts in public expenditure were dashed.

Equities, too, fell sharply, with consumer stocks upset by the likely impact of deflationary forces on consumer spending.

The stock market will now resume its watch on the attitude of the big unions. Only if recessionary pressures alone appear to be curbing inflation will the gilts likely to resume their upward trend. But in equities the overseas earners, relatively untroubled by price cuts, should remain in favour.

There were few takers yesterday for shares in companies whose earnings come from the United Kingdom alone, especially where they depend upon consumer spending.

With the trade unions pressing hard over the last couple of weeks for tighter controls over prices, or even a total freeze on price increases, the retailing sector has been one of the more nervous areas of the stock market.

With results in from Tunnel Holdings, Concrete, Southern, Evans and International Timber this has been a good week for assessing investment prospects in much of the construction sector. The conclusion is that some selective switching might be a good portfolio strategy in the face of a generally uncertain outlook.

Good running yields, adequately covered, and a strong defensive liquidity position are available in one or two situations, and that is the recipe that should enable both investors and companies to keep their heads down through anything but a very prolonged construction industry recession. Arguably, too, p/e ratios are modest enough in selected cases to take care of the capital element in the overall yield once the upturn in activity comes.

The general backdrop is of course, hardly as bleak as it might seem. The construction sector, despite the greater availability of mortgage funds. This reflects the banks' present grudging attitude to granting building finance and builders' own fears about emerging inflation. Arguably, too, contracts given present rates of labour and material inflation, particularly with such an uncertain selling prospect at the end of the year.

Thus, given that yesterday's government package rejected the notion of a fresh barrage of controls on retail prices and even went as far as to emphasize the need to protect retailers' margins and profitability, the further fall in store shares might have seemed slightly surprising.

The market's relief that the retailers have not been notably discriminated against, however, has been tempered by fresh uncertainty as to just how deflationary the Government's action is likely to prove. While it is true that this summer's round of high pay awards is likely to leave reasonable strength in consumer spending up to the end of the year, it is now very much an open question what happens after that.

The real key would seem to lie in how high unemployment goes and at what point in that rise consumers in general start to change from a spend-while-you-can to a time-to-save-a-little attitude.

If and when that point arrives the impact on retailers could be quite large. And if it is accompanied by shopworkers—they generally earn less than the national average—pressing for the 56 pence ceiling as the minimum acceptable wage increase, then the impact on profitability could also be fairly strong.

Road building is still going down, while water and sewage schemes have almost ceased. The outlook for local authority housebuilding is obviously darkened by the present (though probably slowing) curbs on public sector spending and the hair-raising cost of some homes now after taking account of inflation and rolled-up interest charges.

Schools, hospitals, libraries and other public buildings will be under a heavy strain, and a healthy net cash position after a much improved stock situation and the full benefit of the Chancellor's tax concessions come in the present year to help finance the next upturn.

The yield of 6 per cent at 58p is admittedly somewhat modest, though cover of four times leaves scope for a further improvement this year.

On yield grounds Concrete has its attractions, offering 10 per cent largely because the share price has not yet fully caught up with the fact that the group has finally got a nasty clutch of loss-making fixed-price local authority contracts out of its hair. Concrete is a company with a profitable building end of the market, but its important flooring interests are not, and the liquidity position is probably still reasonably defensive.

Tunnel lost out to competitors like Associated Portland Cement last year because of its own expansionist policy of the Common Pricing Agreement, but with that now restored competition is roughly equalized and Tunnel's margins should improve. APC yields 21 points less and is much higher



John Sainsbury, chairman of the Sainsbury food chain.

Profits up to the end of the current year are likely to continue on a rising trend, however, and it still seems a reasonable bet that the more efficient and value-for-money retailers will maintain a profit performance above the industrial average in 1976. Food retailers like J. Sainsbury are probably the soundest defensive stocks within the sector, while among the more general retailers it is hard to ignore Marks & Spencer's resilience in the face of previous squeezes.

In general, the greater the weighting of a group towards the consumer durable market, the more vulnerable it is probably likely to be.

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Estates & Gen chief favours merger

Mr J. Laurence, newly-appointed chairman of Estates & General Investments, thinks adjusted terms for the merger with County & Suburban Holdings are "fair and reasonable". He has no doubt the merger presents the best hope for the company.

In a letter to shareholders he points out that the terms were first before he was connected with the company and he is, therefore, independent. As an accountant he is also qualified to express an opinion.

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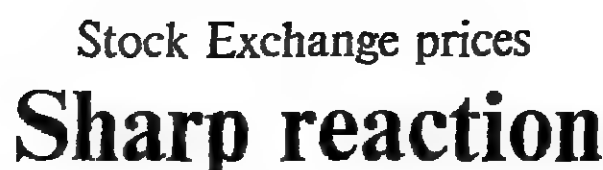
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ACCOUNT DAYS : Dealings Begin, Monday. Dealings End, July 25. § Contango Day, July 28. Settlement Day, Aug 5.
§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

[illegible]

By Peter Ryde
Golf Correspondent

was not until the last part of the leader field had gone down that we knew the leader, Bobby Cole; we had dropped back by taking five at the 17th, where he took three from the edge, but he got one back to give the day a grand

10th his driving was wonderfully confident. It was on this that he based a birdie at the 14th, which was only an inch or two short of an eagle, and a par at the 15th. Assuming without disrespect to Hush that the halfway lead figure

By Lewine Mair

to left. It's my impression that he's quite strong enough to be able to work the ball either way.

Trevino, in fact, had drawn attention to this shocking incident during the game.

Where the Little Mexican manufactured a glorious tee shot which started out in the direction of the 17th fairway and curled in on to the green, the former Scottsdale champion was right and right and flat out for the flag, his ball floating away among the humps and hollows.

Of his own championship chase, he hears today that he overcame Trevino said that he

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T. WATSON (US) (T) 71, 67, 69.

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N. COLES (Rothschilds), 73, 69, 67.
J. NICKLAUS (US) (T) 71, 69.
J. MARAFEEN (US) (T) 68, 69.
K. B. BOSTRUP (SA) (T) 69, 69, 70.
A. OSTROM (SA) (T) 69, 69, 70.

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A. TAPPE (US) (T) 73, 67.
F. POSTERHUB (Pacific I.), 68, 70.
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G. V. MARSH (Australia), 72, 67, 71.

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G. S. CALLAGHER (Wentworth), 72, 67, 71.

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P. LEONARD (Royal Co Downs), 70.
D. BUSH (N. Berwick), 69, 67, 70.

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M. REMBRIDGE (Little Aston), 76.
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D. EDWARDS (US) (T) 72, 71.
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S. N. HODDAY (Rhodesia), 70, 70.

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B. SACCHI (SA) (T) 73, 70.
H. HINKLE (US) (T) 72, 69.
J. CHARLES (NZ) (T) 73, 70.
C. WATSON (Roumania), 72, 74.
W. V. BARRIE (Australia), 71, 73.
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R. DE VICENZO (Argentina), 71, 73.
D. SPARK (US) (T) 71, 72.
D. HAYES (US) (T) 71, 73.

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C. C. WATSON, (an (Carlton), 72, 73.
72.

Golf

67. T. Dill; D. Eichelberger. 68. F.
Board. 69. S. Sneed; O. Stockton; R.
Thompson; B. Lielzko; A. Miller; G.
Jones. 70. L. Nelson; S. Rachels; B.

Rifle shooting

BISLEY: Services meeting: Royal Navy and Royal Marines; Leaders in Queen's Medal: 1. Lt McKay (Portsmouth), 895 pts; 2. Col Moorhead (RMLI), 548; 3. Marine Weathered (RMR), 541. Army: Army Handicapped: 1. Col La Selvaud (Rama), 12; 2. Gurkha Rifle, 785; 3. Col. Ingram (POW Depot). Britannia Trophy: 1. Queen's Own Highlanders (holders), 89; 2. 10 GR, 85; equal 3: 2. Gurkha Rifles, 10; 4. 1 COH, 112; 2. 1 MFR, 705; 10 Gurkha Rifles, 785. Minor unit championships:

championships: Men's doubles, semi-final round: M. G. Cole and M. W. Collins beat M. Parfitt and M. J. ...

1. **PARV** (C) 3. **REME** (C) 4. **STR** (C) 5. **ST** (C) 6. **ST** (C) 7. **ST** (C) 8. **ST** (C) 9. **ST** (C) 10. **ST** (C) 11. **ST** (C) 12. **ST** (C) 13. **ST** (C) 14. **ST** (C) 15. **ST** (C) 16. **ST** (C) 17. **ST** (C) 18. **ST** (C) 19. **ST** (C) 20. **ST** (C) 21. **ST** (C) 22. **ST** (C) 23. **ST** (C) 24. **ST** (C) 25. **ST** (C) 26. **ST** (C) 27. **ST** (C) 28. **ST** (C) 29. **ST** (C) 30. **ST** (C) 31. **ST** (C) 32. **ST** (C) 33. **ST** (C) 34. **ST** (C) 35. **ST** (C) 36. **ST** (C) 37. **ST** (C) 38. **ST** (C) 39. **ST** (C) 40. **ST** (C) 41. **ST** (C) 42. **ST** (C) 43. **ST** (C) 44. **ST** (C) 45. **ST** (C) 46. **ST** (C) 47. **ST** (C) 48. **ST** (C) 49. **ST** (C) 50. **ST** (C) 51. **ST** (C) 52. **ST** (C) 53. **ST** (C) 54. **ST** (C) 55. **ST** (C) 56. **ST** (C) 57. **ST** (C) 58. **ST** (C) 59. **ST** (C) 60. **ST** (C) 61. **ST** (C) 62. **ST** (C) 63. **ST** (C) 64. **ST** (C) 65. **ST** (C) 66. **ST** (C) 67. **ST** (C) 68. **ST** (C) 69. **ST** (C) 70. **ST** (C) 71. **ST** (C) 72. **ST** (C) 73. **ST** (C) 74. **ST** (C) 75. **ST** (C) 76. **ST** (C) 77. **ST** (C) 78. **ST** (C) 79. **ST** (C) 80. **ST** (C) 81. **ST** (C) 82. **ST** (C) 83. **ST** (C) 84. **ST** (C) 85. **ST** (C) 86. **ST** (C) 87. **ST** (C) 88. **ST** (C) 89. **ST** (C) 90. **ST** (C) 91. **ST** (C) 92. **ST** (C) 93. **ST** (C) 94. **ST** (C) 95. **ST** (C) 96. **ST** (C) 97. **ST** (C) 98. **ST** (C) 99. **ST** (C) 100. **ST** (C) 101. **ST** (C) 102. **ST** (C) 103. **ST** (C) 104. **ST** (C) 105. **ST** (C) 106. **ST** (C) 107. **ST** (C) 108. **ST** (C) 109. **ST** (C) 110. **ST** (C) 111. **ST** (C) 112. **ST** (C) 113. **ST** (C) 114. **ST** (C) 115. **ST** (C) 116. **ST** (C) 117. **ST** (C) 118. **ST** (C) 119. **ST** (C) 120. **ST** (C) 121. **ST** (C) 122. **ST** (C) 123. **ST** (C) 124. **ST** (C) 125. **ST** (C) 126. **ST** (C) 127. **ST** (C) 128. **ST** (C) 129. **ST** (C) 130. **ST** (C) 131. **ST** (C) 132. **ST** (C) 133. **ST** (C) 134. **ST** (C) 135. **ST** (C) 136. **ST** (C) 137. **ST** (C) 138. **ST** (C) 139. **ST** (C) 140. **ST** (C) 141. **ST** (C) 142. **ST** (C) 143. **ST** (C) 144. **ST** (C) 145. **ST** (C) 146. **ST** (C) 147. **ST** (C) 148. **ST** (C) 149. **ST** (C) 150. **ST** (C) 151. **ST** (C) 152. **ST** (C) 153. **ST** (C) 154. **ST** (C) 155. **ST** (C) 156. **ST** (C) 157. **ST** (C) 158. **ST** (C) 159. **ST** (C) 160. **ST** (C) 161. **ST** (C) 162. **ST** (C) 163. **ST** (C) 164. **ST** (C) 165. **ST** (C) 166. **ST** (C) 167. **ST** (C) 168. **ST** (C) 169. **ST** (C) 170. **ST** (C) 171. **ST** (C) 172. **ST** (C) 173. **ST** (C) 174. **ST** (C) 175. **ST** (C) 176. **ST** (C) 177. **ST** (C) 178. **ST** (C) 179. **ST** (C) 180. **ST** (C) 181. **ST** (C) 182. **ST** (C) 183. **ST** (C) 184. **ST** (C) 185. **ST** (C) 186. **ST** (C) 187. **ST** (C) 188. **ST** (C) 189. **ST** (C) 190. **ST** (C) 191. **ST** (C) 192. **ST** (C) 193. **ST** (C) 194. **ST** (C) 195. **ST** (C) 196. **ST** (C) 197. **ST** (C) 198. **ST** (C) 199. **ST** (C) 200. **ST** (C) 201. **ST** (C) 202. **ST** (C) 203. **ST** (C) 204. **ST** (C) 205. **ST** (C) 206. **ST** (C) 207. **ST** (C) 208. **ST** (C) 209. **ST** (C) 210. **ST** (C) 211. **ST** (C) 212. **ST** (C) 213. **ST** (C) 214. **ST** (C) 215. **ST** (C) 216. **ST** (C) 217. **ST** (C) 218. **ST** (C) 219. **ST** (C) 220. **ST** (C) 221. **ST** (C) 222. **ST** (C) 223. **ST** (C) 224. **ST** (C) 225. **ST** (C) 226. **ST** (C) 227. **ST** (C) 228. **ST** (C) 229. **ST** (C) 230. **ST** (C) 231. **ST** (C) 232. **ST** (C) 233. **ST** (C) 234. **ST** (C) 235. **ST** (C) 236. **ST** (C) 237. **ST** (C) 238. **ST** (C) 239. **ST** (C) 240. **ST** (C) 241. **ST** (C) 242. **ST** (C) 243. **ST** (C) 244. **ST** (C) 245. **ST** (C) 246. **ST** (C) 247. **ST** (C) 248. **ST** (C) 249. **ST** (C) 250. **ST** (C) 251. **ST** (C) 252. **ST** (C) 253. **ST** (C) 254. **ST** (C) 255. **ST** (C) 256. **ST** (C) 257. **ST** (C) 258. **ST** (C) 259. **ST** (C) 260. **ST** (C) 261. **ST** (C) 262. **ST** (C) 263. **ST** (C) 264. **ST** (C) 265. **ST** (C) 266. **ST** (C) 267. **ST** (C) 268. **ST** (C) 269. **ST** (C) 270. **ST** (C) 271. **ST** (C) 272. **ST** (C) 273. **ST** (C) 274. **ST** (C) 275. **ST** (C) 276. **ST** (C) 277. **ST** (C) 278. **ST** (C) 279. **ST** (C) 280. **ST** (C) 281. **ST**

Merckx loses

nized the youth who punched him. He called a policeman and had the youth's name and address taken and is believed to be starting legal proceedings against him. Jacques Goddet, the race director, said he would also start legal proceedings against the youth.

Merckx now leads the overall

Zoetemelk, who finished fourth here ahead of two Belgians, Doyen

catching a special flight to Nicosia where they will spend tomorrow resting before tackling the Alps on Sunday. Although today's run was relatively flat before the final climb, it forced three more riders to drop out, reducing the field to 107 out of the original 140.

Belgium, 5:27:40; S. H. Deyon
Belgium, 5:27:40; British plating

101. B. Hoban. 5:28:06.
OVERALL: 1. Meriz, 70:05:02; 2. Thevenet, 70:04:00; 3. Zontagret, 70:06:56; 4. Van Inna, 70:07:23; 5. P. Glomondi (Italy), 70:11:56. British leading 74 Hoban. 71:11:00.— Agencies.

England caught on mettlesome pitch

Scorecard

AUSTRALIA: First Innings

R. S. McCosker, b Arnold	..	5
A. Turner, a Bennett, b Snow	..	3
G. M. Chappell, c Fletcher, b Snow	..	5
G. S. Chappell, l-b w b Old	..	5
S. Edwards, c Geoche, b Old	..	1
R. S. Edwards, c Old, b Greig	..	1
T. W. Marsh, c Fletcher, b Arnold	..	6
M. H. Walker, c Knott, b Snow	..	
J. R. Thomson, c Arnold, b M. H. Walker	..	

that England would have been bowling on this had they batted first. That is the way with sports though. So often the side that deserves to make its own luck does so. Walker bowled superbly. He was in his element, with the ball moving a lot at uneven heights. I was 59 overs until yesterday he had taken five first-class wickets on the tour for 231 runs. Now when he came off with 20 minutes left he had four for 35 in 15 overs.

of possibilities and deciding with umpire Page that none was sufficient to justify a call. Then the clerk, Alan Oakman, the Warwickshire coach, to take a new one on the nets, and in the fastest possible time to bowl a delivery with this new one, the scene inevitably resembling a film that was being run at too fast a speed. Whitehouse, of Warwickshire, battered, Brown and overdressed. Marsh's brother, at one end, caught at the wicket when ball remained, not off the ball but had gone out of shape but not that Fage had been carrying on his pocket and had been something like 20 overs bowled with Marsh's brother, at Carnoustie, could hardly have looked anything that Rodney had been looking at. The brother, Rodney, into the bat. When, then, breathlessly, the ball that had been through the saucer

it. It was with the backing of those who should know best, his bowlers, that he chose to field there. They feared the batsmen taking the field on Thursday morning, and they and the captain were right. It is fairer, I think, to question Denness's handling of Underwood. When, at last Underwood came on to bat, it was 91 over six and he had last bowled, or six and a half hours of playing time. Yet his sixth ball he took Thomas's wicket, while the first ball he bowled he took Arnold for an hour and a quarter. There was a world of meaning in the way Underwood put his sweater back on when he was stumped off the field. When he fell back he watched the ball falling on an unprotected pitch. I had a time to say about the too, I imagine.

AUSTRALIA: First Innings
R. G. McCosker, b Arnold .. 51

[illegible]

BOWLING (to date): Liles, 12-8-13-3; Thompson, 10-3-21-0; Walker, 15-3-35-4; Mallett, 3-1-1-0.

Umpires: A. E. Fagg and H. D. Bird

One reason for

By Alan Gibson

the afternoon, though not without plenty of excitement: at 16

[illegible]

SOUTHPORT: Lancashire (7 pts.
drew with Worcestershire (6).

Engineer who received the last ball. But later, with Gifford and d'Oliveira in harness on a pitch that was the least ideal of the ground, it was possible to predict a degree of panic by the batsmen.

Comprehension, perhaps, but panic, but with the bowlers' ascendancy written large and clear, it seemed folly for the batsmen to withdraw into a tight defensive resistance to which sooner rather than later they would get out and commit their wickets. Thus with caution the overriding consideration was not altogether a surprise when the first seven batsmen came out and went in for a meagre 46 runs. The first and second were out of course, and as my neighbour put it, "with one bound our hero would have been home having his cue by pulling d'Oliveira off the square." Shurtleworf caught o quickly and drove d'Oliveira for 10. The third batsman was the same over a second six was splendid blow, but a slange mimed perfectly, the ball landing within the square, being bowled with the 3.45 from Liverpool little behind schedule. After the fourth batsman was out, the wicket to fall, the innings closes for 88.

The start to the morning was delayed for the rain, but while the pitch was made ready

County championship

	P	W	L	T	GF	GA
James (8)	11	4	1	0	10	10
Leves (10)	11	4	1	1	19	24
Boone (12)	10	6	1	3	24	12
Kent (10)	10	5	1	4	31	12
York (11)	10	5	1	4	34	11
Leles (4)	10	1	3	3	17	17
Lin (16)	10	1	4	5	35	28
Wright (7)	10	1	4	5	25	27
Watwick (9)	10	1	3	6	17	19
North (15)	10	1	5	4	26	19
Kendrick (8)	10	1	5	4	18	24
Worrell (1)	10	1	2	7	14	24
Sumner (5)	10	1	4	4	16	14
Middleton (6)	11	2	3	6	23	17
Wright (1)	11	2	3	6	15	25
Glouce (11)	11	1	7	1	27	6
Sturges (13)	10	1	7	2	18	33

1954 positions in brackets.

LORD'S: Gloucestershire (18)

damage by hitting a number boundaries, but again Gloucestershire slumped, going from 103 three to 114 for seven. Feat stone had a spell of three for in 15 balls. He bowled Kn who hit four fours and one

A. J. Hignell not out

Today's cricket
TEST MATCH
BIRMINGHAM: - England v Austral
 (11.30 to 5.30)
COUNTRY CLUB: CHESHIRE
CHESTERFIELD: Derbyshire v Yorkshi
 (11.0 to 5.30)
DOVER: Kent v Nottinghamshire (11
 to 5.30)

READING (University ground): Ben
shiro v Buckinghamshire.

INFORMATION
JURISDICTION LEAGUE (7.30-10.30)
CHILMSFORD Essex (Middlesex)
LYDNEY Gloucestershire vs Gloucestershire
BANGSTOWN Hampshire vs Warwickshire
DOVER Kent vs Nottinghamshire
LEICESTER Leicestershire vs Surrey
TORQUAY Somerset vs Northampton
LEDS Yorkshire vs Lancashire
OTHER MATCHES
LEEDS vs **ELTON** **BATON** (12.30 to 5.0)
CORK Ireland vs Wales
MINOR COUNTRIES
LUTON Bedfordshire vs Cambridgeshire
READING University ground; Bath
Reading vs **Exeter**
STANTFORD Lincolnshire vs Cumberland



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